

85th Session of the Senate of the Associated Students

Minutes for Friday, June 2nd, 2017 at 5:00 P.M.

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

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Speaker Jackson called the Senate meeting to order at 5:03 pm in the Rita Laden Senate Chambers, 3rd Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union. Presiding secretary, Andrea Godoy.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL**

Speaker Jackson and Senators Billman, Bussman, Cook, Cyn. Lee, Flangas, Kuykendall, Lippi, Mah, Mall, Martinez, Paningbatan, Smith, Stopka, Sullivan, Thummel, and Compton were present.

Senators Becker, Cam. Lee, Sarwar, and Se were absent excused.

Senator Tool was absent unexcused.

A quorum was present.

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- a. The minutes from April 26th, 2017
- b. The minutes from May 10th, 2017
- c. The minutes from May 17th 2017
- d. The minutes from May 24th, 2017

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at this time.

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

There were no receipts or petitions to be read at this time.

7. **REPORTS OF ASUN OFFICERS**

- a. President of the Associated Students, Noah Teixeira
- b. Vice President of the Associated Students, Sebastian Atienza

c. Chief Justice, Samuel Bruketta

Chief Justice Bruketta said he had the Council's final decision. The council found that President Teixeira was not in violation of the SAS. It came down to a couple of things. It was about the president's duties: "Section 01: Duties of the President- To present a new appointment to the Senate within the following two weeks of said committee or Senate meeting if an executive appointment is reported unfavorably by the Senate committee on Oversight or if an appointee is

POSTED ON OR BEFORE 9:00 a.m.

ON THE THIRD WORKING DAY BEFORE THE MEETING

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not passed by the Senate, or in the event that he or she is unable to find a qualified candidate within those two weeks, he/she must present himself/herself to the Committee on Oversight and explain the circumstances.” There were two main issues they looked at. The first one was that the vote of the senate body in regard to Mr. Walberg had interpretation. One side brought forward that Mr. Walberg wasn’t recommended unfavorably because the motion was to recommend favorably and that didn’t pass. The Council found that he was recommended unfavorably. There are two ways previous sessions had worked. There are two voting styles where you recommend favorably and the second was to use a double action voting style to recommend unfavorably and favorably. If a session is using the signal action then if you don’t recommend something favorably, then it is the logical opposite. In double action, if they don’t recommend something favorably and it fails, then it wasn’t not recommended unfavorably; it isn’t a logical opposite. In this case, he was recommended unfavorably because this body uses a single action vote. The council found that it should be put in the SAS or Senate Rules by the deliberating body whether the entire Association uses the single or double action voting style. The Council recommends it be written into the SAS just in case Senate itself is using the single action and then a committee decides to implement a double action style. The second thing they had to interpret was the meaning of new appointment. They found that the submission of the second letter consisted a new appointment. They were confused by SAS language and there was distinct difference between “appointment” and “appointee.” Appointment is the action of appointing someone and that would be in the letter being submitted. If they did believe that a new individual should be in front of Senate, they should change the language to be appointee. He wanted to address some of the current concerns of having the same individuals come back to the table because they can tailor answers or manipulate them for their benefit. It was not the Council’s job to address that but rather the party at the table. The Council believed that character was something that was consistent in an individual. Therefore, bringing back an individual to the table would be advantageous because they already understood an individual’s character. That gave the individual the opportunity to clarify points since the underlining character of the individual did not change.

Speaker Jackson said that if President Teixeira were to submit the same appointee, would he have to send a new letter now that a decision has been made.

Chief Justice Bruketta said he should send in a new letter since that letter is what the Council recognized as the act of doing it.

Speaker Jackson asked if he needs to send a new letter in the current situation.

Chief Justice Bruketta said yes. To agendize the appointment again, he recommended another letter be submitted whether it be a new individual or the same appointment.

Senator Cyn. Lee said that essentially, if President Teixeira wanted to, he could submit the same appointment by writing new letters over and over again.

Chief Justice Bruketta said yes. Currently, as the language stood, it was President Teixeira’s job to submit a new appointment and they classified appointment as the action of submitting the letter. The Council made it very clear that appointment and appointee were two distinct things.

Speaker Jackson recommended the Committee on Government Operations have a conversation once committees begin meeting again.

Chief Justice Bruketta said they also talked about what they wanted to see if they kept it as appointee. Does that mean if they failed the first time and then the second nomination failed,

could the original nominee be brought up for reconsideration. They had some language to play with and he will help out if needed. He wanted to see the voting action be added to the SAS as well. If they had any questions or wanted to see the original documents, they can stop by his office. The documents will be posted on the website as well.

- d. Chief of Staff, Carissa Bradley
- e. Director of Sustainability, Steven McNeece
- f. Attorney General, Cameron Harris
- g. Director of Event Programming, Mia Kinel
- h. Director of Clubs and Organizations, Jared Desamero
- i. Director of Legislative Affairs, Spencer Schultz
- j. Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Precious Gbenjo
- k. Director of Blue Crew, Cole Nason
- l. Speaker of the Senate, Hannah Jackson

8. REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEES

- a. Chair, Committee on Academics – Senator Cammie Lee
- b. Chair, Committee on Budget and Finance – Senator Kuykendall
- c. Chair, Committee on Civic Engagement – Senator Flangas
- d. Chair, Committee on Government Operations – Senator Thummel
- e. Chair, Committee on Public Affairs – Senator Becker
- f. Chair, Committee on University Affairs – Senator Bussman
- g. Speaker Pro-Tempore – Senator Martinez
- h. Chair, Committee on Oversight – Speaker Jackson

9. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no comments or announcements at this time.

10. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK APPOINTMENTS

The following nominations were submitted to the Speaker of the Senate on May 23rd, 2017:

- a. Nomination of Holly White to the office of Event Programmer
- b. Nomination of Matthew Dutcher to the office of Event Programmer
- c. Nomination of Paulena Kinel to the office of Event Programmer
- d. Nomination of Gabrielle Lew to the office of Event Programmer
- e. Nomination of Erica Bickel to the office of Event Programmer
- f. Nomination of Ronald Hemphill III to the office of Event Programmer

Senator Martinez moved to fast-track nominations a-f.

Senator Smith seconded.

Motion carried.

11. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS OF SENATORS AND ASUN OFFICIALS

- a. **The following nominations were submitted to the Speaker of Senate on May 23rd, 2017:**
Senator Flangas moved to nominate Holly White, Mathew Dutcher, Paulena Kinel, Gabrielle Lew, Erica Bickel and Ronald Hemphill III.

Senator Smith seconded.

Dr. Beattie said the motion needed to be redone.

Senator Flangas withdrew the motion.

Senator Martinez moved to approve Holly White, Matthew Dutcher, Gabrielle Lew, Ronald Hemphill III, and Erica Bickel.

Senator Smith seconded.

Director Kinel was super excited to present the individuals to the body. She believed these individuals were the most qualified for the positions. When she was reviewing the applicants, she looked at experience, personality traits, and the strengths of each nominee in order to make a collective and collaborative department. In the past, they had seen departments with individuals that were unable to work together. That motivated her to find individuals that would collaborate well with one another. For each interview, she asked the individuals a series of questions that were scenario-based. For example, she would ask if this happened, how would they react. She also had them take a personality test. The documentation she asked them to bring in was a new event and the budget as well as cover letters and resumes. She also asked for a traditional event and a budget, a homecoming idea, and a BLF artist. She was fully confident that they were the most competent individuals and she was excited for this year as well as for the body to see what they had to offer.

Speaker Jackson said each nominee will have three minutes to present themselves followed by 10 minutes of questions and answers by the body.

i. NOMINATION OF MATTHEW DUTCHER TO THE OFFICE OF EVENT PROGRAMMER

Mr. Dutcher said he was a junior majoring in HDFS with a minor in women's studies. He wanted to get into ASUN because he spent a lot of time with his fraternity and while he got a lot out of it, he was also getting a lot out of the university. He felt that it was time to give his time and talents to the university. He had experience with programming since high school. He was the president of the Public Art Design Academy where they did a \$10,000 public art project through the city of Brentwood. He had held two office positions in his fraternity. The first position was Vice President of Academics and Philanthropy where he put on three philanthropic events. Two of the events went really well and the other didn't but it was his first event but he learned a lot from it and if it hadn't been for that foundation, he wouldn't have been able to do the second event. The second event was completely new and had to be done from scratch but it raised a record amount of money. The next semester, they did a haunted house with AOT that raised 1,002 pounds of food. This amount had not been raised in the past. He ran for president the next year and has had a hand in all the events that had been planned this year. He has managed a \$100,000 every semester and has worked with 120 guys on his exec board so he had experience with teamwork. He had three goals for the position. The first would be to get more people to the homecoming game since it was really important the people show up to the events and the game. It really pushed his buttons that people attended the homecoming events but not the game. The second goal was to get more people involved with Unity week. He really liked what it stood for and wanted to make it bigger than what it is. His last goal was to be more in communication with the student body to see what the students wanted from Programming.

ii. NOMINATION OF GABRIELLE LEW TO THE OFFICE OF EVENT PROGRAMMER

Ms. Lew said she was going to be a sophomore. She was currently a pre-business major but was looking to declare in business management in October. Ultimately, she wanted to be a programmer because she ultimately had a passion for planning. Planning is who she is and she adored being organized, paying attention to detail, was very adaptive, and quick on her feet. Planning was huge not just in events but in her life in general. As for experience, in high school she was involved with student council, leadership, and various clubs. That is where she discovered her passion for planning events and how she decided that is what she wanted to do that for the rest of her life. She wants to be an event planner for the rest of her life. Last year, she got the opportunity to be a programming intern and learned a lot from it. She loved every moment from it. She worked with her mentor, Precious Gbenjo, and because of it she now feels confident in her planning abilities. She loved serving the student body and giving them something to look forward to. With that said, she had three goals for the upcoming year. The first goal was to include and foster an intern of her own. As she mentioned earlier, she had an incredible mentor last year and without her mentor, she would have never been able to learn as much as she did or come this far. She wants to do that for her own intern as that was important for the future of ASUN. The second goal was to make homecoming events more inclusive for nontypical students since homecoming is typically aimed at Greek Life. She wanted others to feel included and be a part of it even if they didn't have a specific team. Lastly, she wanted to create new events that the study body had not seen before to keep it fresh. The events could be little things that happen throughout the semester so students had something to look forward to besides Mackay Week and Homecoming.

Senator Compton left the room at 5:20 pm.

iii. NOMINATION OF HOLLY WHITE TO THE OFFICE OF EVENT PROGRAMMER

Ms. White said she will be a sophomore in the fall. Her major is neuroscience with a minor in human development. She is very passionate about leadership and that is what she has done for the past seven years. With that said, over the last seven years she has been involved with leadership and student council. This last year she was an intern under Director Charles for Legislative Affairs. There, she planned Wolf Pack Smart Talks and had her dad come and speak about USA and the federal bond policy. She also planned Late Night with Your Legislator where they had Amber Joiner come to talk about higher education and what bills were supposed to pass this year. It was a really eye-opening experience for her. She also campaigned to be a senator for ASUN but obviously lost. With that, she experienced what she was passionate about and found out what she wanted to do with ASUN. With Director Charles, she realized she loved ASUN and didn't want to go anywhere; programming is what she really wanted to do. Over the last seven years, she has planned things like dances, but wants to plan bigger things. She was born and raised in Reno and has planned a few local walk-a-thons. She also did a lot of volunteer group with the food bank and with veterans. A goal she had was to create opportunities for civic engagement since that was something they all wanted and something the students wanted to be a part of. In her packet, she included a new event that would put the university on the map everywhere. She wanted to make Reno a college town. She wanted to bring students together and be a voice for students that aren't often heard.

Leadership wasn't about them; it was about what they could do for the students. She was very grateful for the opportunity to be able to continue to serve the students.

iv. NOMINATION OF RONALD HEMPHILL III TO THE OFFICE OF EVENT PROGRAMMER

Mr. Hemphill said he will be junior in the fall and he is an international affairs major. He wanted to be in the Department because he had a lot of experience leading with event planning and taking charge. For example, going back to middle school, he was in student council and planned dances and other school events. In high school, he was the entertainment director for three years straight. He helped plan events for Relay for Life to keep everyone up all night and to also help more people come. He also helped fundraise for the American Cancer Society. Even in college, he has had a knack for event planning for his fraternity. From November to March, he was the Co-Coordinator for the Regional Ms. Phi Beta Pageant. It was a pageant for women who had won in their local chapter and then came to Reno to participate; the winner would go to the national conference. In the past year, he was the entrainment director for Relay for Life for this college and will be the president for the Colleges Against Cancer Foundation. He had goals for himself and the department. For himself, he hoped to be more outgoing. He felt he could do this through ASUN. For the department itself, he wanted to bring more civil service ideas. One idea he had was to reach out to the founder of the Humans of New York Foundation and bring him to the campus for Unity Week to show diversity on campus.

v. NOMINATION OF ERICA BICKEL TO THE OFFICE OF EVENT PROGRAMMER

Ms. Bickel said she was going to be a senior in the fall. She was a marketing major with a communications minor. She had her hands in a few different areas on campus. She was a tour guide, a part of multiple clubs, and had been in ASUN for the past three years. She started out in ASUN as an intern her freshman year. She was able to help plan the Lavern Cox event, which is what continued her love of programming and why she had stayed. She was the lead Unity Week Programmer for the past three years and worked to expand Unity Week to reach more and more students. Her passion really lies with unity and diversity because the campus was diverse and growing and she wanted to reach as many students' needs as possible. Her biggest accomplishment thus far was planning the drag show for Unity Week this past year. She was proud that many nontraditional students came to the events and she wanted to continue that. For her goals, she wanted to partner with clubs to reach more students, create new traditions, and elevate current events. To expand on that, the student body was getting more diverse and she wanted to include those students. For example, they don't have a spring tradition currently like they do with homecoming week in the fall. They don't have a huge spring tradition and she would like to start that. One idea she had was to make a Mackay Day instead of a week and would be reflective of UC Davis's Picnic Day. There could be free food and music and everyone could sit on the quad. She also wanted to continue the Campus to the City Initiative that was started with President Fabbi. That meant inviting community members to their events and partnering with community members. This is something they did with Unity Week last year.

Speaker Jackson said they will hear questions and answers for the board as a whole or for individual candidates.

Senator Smith asked Mr. Dutcher how he would increase communication with the students from the department.

Mr. Dutcher said he had networked with many people through his fraternity. He didn't want to just reach out to the Greek community but it was a good start.

Senator Martinez was looking through resumes and goals of the individuals. He asked if any of them had goals for academic success for people.

Mr. Dutcher said that the event he had in mind was study in the sun on dead day when everyone was immersed in their studying and locked in the library. It would give students a break outside to play games, eat free food, and even study outside.

There were no further questions at this time.

Speaker Jackson asked the candidates leave the room but they did not have to per Nevada Open Meeting Law.

Senator Martinez said they seemed to handle themselves well, which they had to do for events. He was happy that they were prepared for the academic success event. He knew others had ideas but it was great someone could jump on top of the question. Director Kinel thought about picking the programs and had a well-thought-out plan.

Senator Flangas said each had different insights and things to offer. They had a holistic view, had ideas from different perspectives, and had ideas that were also attainable and inventive. These were strong qualities to have.

There was no further discussion at this time.

Motion carried.

vi. NOMINATION OF PAULENA KINEL TO THE OFFICE OF EVENT PROGRAMMER

Senator Smith moved to nominate Paulena Kinel to Office of Event Programmer. Senator Martinez seconded.

Assistant Director Lensch said to let them know, they may recognize the relationship between Director Kinel and Ms. Paulena Kinel. He and Assistant Director Feng sat in on the interview, they conducted the questions, and they decided to hire her. Her experience as an intern and her spunkiness and drive to care for nontraditional students made her a great asset. There will be a letter sent out that Ms. Kinel will report to Assistant Director Lensch so there would be no conflict of interest. He was excited for her to be here as she will be a great asset to the team.

Speaker Jackson said the nominee will have 3 minutes to present followed by 5 minutes of questions and answers.

Ms. Kinel said she will be a sophomore in the fall and is majoring in public health. Through the internship last year, she learned how to improve events they currently had as well as how to communicate. She graduated from the Las Vegas Academy of Performing Arts. She was therefore involved in the activities rather than being

behind the scenes which is why she thought it was very important for her to see how to create those events. She recognizes with and relates to groups that aren't often represented on campus. She especially loved the religious groups on campus. In high school, she was the editor-in-chief for two years for her school newspaper. That allowed her to be a good leader and understand what it took to get people to listen when they are near your age group. She also learned to understand deadlines and the importance of reporting to someone who has a job above you. She was also the junior ambassador of the Hidden Talent Foundation which provides educational opportunities to children that are underserved in Africa. That made her feel the importance of unity within different cultures. She brought a diverse perspective, took orders well, and would really appreciate any questions.

Senator Flangas asked for specific goals. She wanted to know Ms. Kinel's specific drive and the groups she wanted to work with.

Ms. Kinel wanted to work with religious groups. They could have a tabling event to showcase how many diverse groups they had. What people believe is a huge part of who they are and the campus should know about what they had to offer.

There were no further questions; the body moved to discussion.

Senator Martinez said she was very soft-spoken but it was because Director Kinel had chosen a diverse board. She clearly wanted to reach all aspects of the campus and he truly appreciated it. Ms. Kinel had great goals to unify the campus. Ms. Kinel was someone he approved of.

There was no further discussion at this time.

Motion carried; Ms. Kinel was approved.

Matthew Dutcher, Gabrielle Lew, Holly White, Ronald Hemphill III, Erica Bickel, and Paulena Kinel were sworn in as Programmers.

12. VETO MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

There were no veto messages at this time.

13. CONSENT AGENDA

There was no legislation filed for the Consent Agenda.

14. FIRST READING OF LEGISLATION

- a. S.B. 85 – An Act to Revise the ASUN Operating Budget FY18
- b. S.B. 85 – An Act to Move Monies Within the Legislative Affairs Account for FY17

15. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK LEGISLATION

- a. S.B. 85 – An Act to Revise the ASUN Operating Budget FY18
- b. S.B. 85 – An Act to Move Monies Within the Legislative Affairs Account for FY17

Senior Martinez moved to fast-track agenda items a and b.
Senator Billman seconded.
Motion carried.

16. REFERRALS TO COMMITTEE

There was no legislation to be considered for referral at this time.

17. SECOND READING OF LEGISLATION

The following bills and resolutions will receive their second reading and may be considered:

- a. S.B. 85 – An Act to Revise the ASUN Operating Budget FY18

Senator Kuykendall said this piece of legislation was because there as an error with the excel spreadsheet they approved as the budget. To get it back to the approved state, they need to make a reduction elsewhere. Director Rodriguez encouraged them to make the reduction in the operating line for the Center of Student Engagement because it was most easily able to handle that. It handled a lot of different things as opposed to some departments that would be very heavily impacted because they are for specific things.

Senator Flangas moved to approve S.B. 85 – An Act to Revise the ASUN Operating Budget FY18.

Senator Martinez seconded.

There were no questions or discussion at this time.

Motion carried.

- b. S.B. 85 – An Act to Move Monies Within the Legislative Affairs Account for FY17

Senator Martinez moved to approve S.B. 85 – An Act to Move Monies Within the Legislative Affairs Account for FY17.

Senator Sullivan seconded.

Senator Kuykendall said he was sponsoring the legislation that Director Shultz wrote.

Director Shultz said they were buying TurboVote, funding a conference, and buying some office supplies. He was planning on buying a bigger whiteboard and those were expensive. \$650 for office supplies, \$350 for the CLDE conference, \$3,500 was the quote for TurboVote.

Senator Flangas asked they outline why they chose TurboVote.

Director Shultz said TurboVote was the democratic engagement software that hey had used. He chose it because he was appointed so late and the turnover to chose a new software after research was too much. He'd rather come to Senate and give a presentation as to why they are using something rather than scamper around to try and get something done. Based on recommendations from Dr. Beattie and Director Rodriguez, he will be doing research on other programs. TurboVote was the easiest way to get things done.

Senator Kuykendall asked him to explain why they are moving money from wages.

Director Shultz said they had a significant of money leftover in the assistant director account. This was because they had an unfilled position for most of the year. It had around \$7000 left so they decided that was the account that could take that sort of hit.

Motion carried.

18. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

a. Senator Reports

Senator reports were not done at this time.

19. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no comments or announcements at this time.

20. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

21. ADJOURNMENT

Speaker Jackson adjourned the meeting at 5:48 pm.