

# Committee on Academics

Senate of the Associated Students 85th Session  
Minutes for Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.  
President's Conference room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Joe Crowley Union

## 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Senator Cammie Lee called the meeting of Academics to order on Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 8:04 am in the President's conference room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Joe Crowley Union. Presiding secretary, Zanae' Jones.

## 2. ROLL CALL

Senators Cammie Lee, Becker, Cook, Cynthia Lee, Lippi and Senator Se were present.

Senator Cook was absent excused.

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

There is no old business at this time.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

### a. **Dr. Scott Mensing from Department of Undergraduate Research**

Dr. Scott Mensing said thanks and that he appreciated to be a part of the meeting. He said he wanted to introduce Gabriel Golez as a graduate research assistant in his office. He also said that Gabriel Golez will be the point of contact with this committee on a regular basis. He said there were a few things that he wanted to run by the committee to see where everyone stood. He said last year the budget was not entirely spent for the Nevada Undergraduate Research funds and it was about \$6000 may be less to use it for travel awards. That changed our award structure so students could not travel to present their research as a part of an award. However, after the student completed their research, if they had their paper accepted at a professional conference, then they could apply to the undergrad research department and we will provide \$300 to their travel. This is not a competition and this is first come first serve to any of you that meet the criteria. He said they would like to use the ASUN money to match that for students that might need more to go up to \$600 and said that unless there are any objections they would use those funds in that way.

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Posted at the ASUN Offices in the Joe Crowley Student Union, Frandsen Humanities Building, the Ansari Business Building, Mathewson- IGT Knowledge Center, and online at [www.nevadaasun.com](http://www.nevadaasun.com).

If you would like a copy of any of the agenda items listed, please contact Senator Lee at [senatorcamlee@asun.unr.edu](mailto:senatorcamlee@asun.unr.edu).



Cammie Lee asked to clarify was the \$6000 already transferred.

Dr. Scott Mensing said yes, it already was transferred and in their account.

*Senator Tralmer entered the room at 8:08 am.*

Cammie Lee asked Dr. Scott Mensing if he wanted to use the \$6000 for travel.

Dr. Scott Mensing said yes and they give students \$300 for travel if they meet the criteria. If the student needed more than we would use your money to match up to another \$300 for total. The Pendulum award is \$600 because we have an enough money to at least sponsor twenty students.

Cammie Lee said okay and asked if it is \$300 from undergrad research and another \$300 from ASUN.

Dr. Scott Mensing said yes.

Cammie Lee asked Dr. Beattie do you know how we could go about that.

Dr. Beattie said that money was left over and it was transferred into Dr. Scotts account so he can use it for whatever he wanted.

Cammie Lee said okay.

Dr. Scott Mensing said that he wanted to tell the committee that was their intentions as long as that sounded as reasonable us of money.

Cammie Lee agreed that it was a reasonable use of the money because flights are usually more than \$300. She also asked if anyone had any comments.

Dr. Scott Mensing said that the committee should apply because they have no oversight over it so no one had conflict of interest in the award.

Senator Cynthia Lee asked if there are specific deadline.

Dr. Scott said if go onto our website their either is or will be fairly soon a schedule and essentially one month before your award date. If you need the award by November 1st then the deadline would be October 1st and it is open all year to apply. A student would need evidence to verify that the student was presenting and the research department would ask for the same kind of information regarding travel expenses.

Senator Tralmer asked how many people apply for this award.

Dr. Scott Mensing said very few and they are hoping to stimulate more students to apply.

Senator Cynthia Lee asked would if siblings would apply to the same award.

Dr. Scott Mensing said no he did not care and that it would just be individuals going and does not matter if they are related to each other.

Senator Cammie Lee asked when Dr. Scott Mensing said that no one uses these funds should the committee encourage others to apply.

Dr. Scott Mensing said yes, the committee should get the word out and encourage students to apply. Students did not have to be funded by the undergrad research department and do not care how their research was done just that they would presenting their research in a professional setting off campus. He said that in terms of advertising, that he wrote up a schedule previously and Gabriel Golez is responsible for a simple newsletter that gives the details to the upcoming community for students to come and learn more. This would constantly remind students of opportunities and deadlines. The newsletter will be done essentially two days before the two week time period. The committee can post flyers and post on social media to help get the word out is strongly encouraged because the committee had avenues to reach students that they find challenging. Gabriel Golez will be the one that will always be producing the newsletter and will always be published two weeks before the deadline.

Senator Cammie Lee asked if Dr. Scott Mensing wanted the committee to advertise.

Dr. Scott Mensing said yes, on a daily basis through whatever mechanisms they feel appropriate.

Senator Cammie Lee asked if there was anything he would like to say from the department of undergrad research.

Dr. Scott Mensing said yes and as they know as they contribute money to award they give the committee opportunities to review proposals and now review proposals every semester in fall and spring. That review period will be for Nevada Undergrad rewards will be from November 17<sup>th</sup> through November 30<sup>th</sup> before and after Thanksgiving. Typically they have fundraisers often from the committee. He said that he would like the committee to think about who could serve on the panel and they usually need 5 or 6 people for the panel. They need students not just from STEM disciplines but from all of the colleges. They need students from the College of Liberal Arts, they need students from College of Humanities and need Students from Business. He said he will be contacting the committee and remind the committee again to see how would be able to service this panel. The workload is about 12 proposals. So it is not hard however, it is an activity to not only score but write.

Senator Cammie Lee said that in one their meetings they will have to talk about ways on how they will be advertising and asked how they would like to tell other Senators.

Dr. Scott Mensing asked her what she thought was best.

Senator Cammie Lee said they should talk about it at one of the Senate meetings. Dr. Scott Mensing said that knowing that time frame is by the middle of November and asked when would be a good time to get reviewers.

Senator Cammie Lee said if he would need reviewers by the 17<sup>th</sup> of November and she would have reviewers by November 1<sup>st</sup>, two weeks prior to that.

Dr. Scott Mensing said yes and asked if he puts himself on the agendas or does she.

Senator Cammie Lee said she could ask Anna to put him on the agenda or he can talk during public comment.

Dr. Scott Mensing said whatever is best.

Senator Cammie Lee said they will take care of it but, public comment may be best.

Dr. Scott Mensing said to let him know by Wednesday November 1st.

Senator Cammie Lee said yes, that would give you a little more than 2 weeks.

Dr. Scott Mensing asked when the committee meets.

Senator Cammie Lee said that the committee meets every other week. So it is bi-weekly. They do not meet next week however they do meet on September 29th.

Dr. Scott Mensing said that Gabriel Golez will attend regularly and that he will attend once a month.

Senator Cammie Lee said perfect and asked when the committee meets once a month the committee usually meets at 8:30 am.

Dr. Scott Mensing said if it is on Fridays that his problem was that he teaches at 9:00 am.

Senator Cammie Lee said when Dr. Scott Mensing comes to the meeting it will be moved to 8:00 am.

Dr. Scott Mensing said cool, and that he really liked working with the committee.

*Dr. Scott Mensing and Gabriel Golez left the room at 8:17 am.*

Public comment:

Larisa Gloutar, senior editor for NSURJ, said she is one of the current senior Editors for Nevada's journal and our connection is with the Chair Senator Cammie Lee. She wanted to come and introduce herself and pass out flyers. The research journal started in 2014 and they published their third journal this past spring and said that she would pass them around. They represent a published journals from the entire University included all NSHE institutions in Nevada colleges. The journal had anything in there from math to all sort of other subjects. She also said that here the journal had four articles in the journal. They may do a special edition for articles they get this year. She heard they may get a special ecology edition. They planned on printing in the spring. She is here to answer any questions regarding the journal. They review the articles and work with the author to ensure that the articles are up to par. They also work with UNLV to hire a senior editor down there. She asked if there were any questions.

Senator Cammie Lee asked if the committee had to edit it or anything.

Larisa Gloutar said no and just here to spread the word and give any suggestions for the committee. If they needed her email it is on their website.

Senator Cynthia Lee asked how many people submit their articles.

Larisa Gloutar said not enough and they always need more submissions. Right now they currently had zero.

Senator Lippi asked what the psychology journal was.

Larisa Gloutar said the idea from last year was UNLV got a lot of ecology submissions so they were going to do special edition. Something happened with the editors and so they never did a special edition. Even graduated students can submit their research journals after 6 months after they graduate. The special editions is if they get a huge amount of editions from one subject.

Senator Cammie Lee asked how students submit their research to this program.

Larisa Gloutar said that on their website had a submit button and has a tab to get involved and then you hit submit. From there that is where you get submissions.

Senator Becker said he had a suggestion and that he bets a lot of students would hear about the journal but not know how to submit it. Maybe the program could put, "How to apply," in the table of contents to put in the very beginning.

Larisa Gloutar said thank you.

Senator Cammie Lee said as a side note Senator Cook would need to leave.

*Senator Cook left the room at 8:24 am.*

Larisa Gloutar said if you would like us to come to the Senate I can see if the senior editors could come as well either once this semester or one next semester they could.

Senator Cammie Lee said she thought she should come to one of the senate meetings so she could get the word out to all the other Senators.

Larisa Gloutar said she would get in contact with Speaker Jackson when it works best.

Senator Cammie Lee said perfect and asked if she had anything else for us.

Larisa Gloutar said that was it and thanked the committee.

Senator Cammie Lee asked if anyone had any other questions for Melissa and said thank you so much for coming.

Melissa said great and if anyone wanted to keep a journal please do but, if not they always like to keep a tiny amount in hand as possible for students to look at.

Senator Lippi asked how many physical copies does the journal print out a year.

Senator Lippi said it changes and it is about 100 copies.

Larisa Gloutar said around 200 and that it depends on how involved students are in the journal. During the summer in orientation that only one student actually wanted one.

Senator Lippi asked if the journals were only distributed on UNR's campus.

Larisa Gloutar said that it happened at UNLV. There was an idea to drive from Elko to visit UNLV but that would be the only way to distribute journals. We also give them out as a payment for special authors or journals.

Dr. Beattie said that the purpose of the journal was an online journal. This was just to give tangible manifestation to people that put work in. The editors, authors, professors and anyone that helped would get one.

Larisa Gloutar said to let the committee know that all three editions are online so you can always cruise through and see what had been published in the past.

Senator Cammie Lee said thank you much for coming and letting us know about this journal.

Larisa Gloutar said thank you for having me.

*Larisa Gloutar left the room at 8:26 am.*

**b. Research on Volunteering Abroad Programs**

Senator Cammie Lee said that Senator Cynthia Lee and she had an idea to start a volunteer abroad chapter at UNR for the cost of traveling. She said she wanted the committee to do a research on schools because she noticed that everyone had their own projects going on. She thought it was best for Senator Cynthia Lee and her to do their own research and after they had that information compiled they would tell the committee.

Senator Becker asked if they were looking at schools do volunteer at or do research.

Senator Cammie Lee said no and that it was a volunteer abroad program so they wanted to create a program to go over costs of airfare tickets. She said so it would be easier for students to volunteer abroad. They researched other schools as in how they implemented that.

Senator Becker said okay.

Senator Se asked if they would be participating in this as well.

Senator Cammie Lee said that she noticed that everyone had their own projects going on as well with the libraries and did not want to put any more stress. If anyone would like to help in the project was encouraged to do so.

Senator Becker said he had a suggestions for different programs but, can wait for after the meeting.

Senator Cammie Lee said great.

**c. Senator Updates**

Senator Cynthia Lee and she met with Cardillo yesterday. He was a busy guy but he liked the plan for more research opportunities. They need people there anyway since they had a Senator Cammie Lee said Senator Updates is not for everyone to go around and present but, there was meeting with Dean Raye and she wanted others to give a debrief of what the meeting was about or she could do it.

Senator Becker said to go for it.

Senator Cammie Lee said yesterday she had a meeting with Dean Raye and the meeting was with her and Senator Cynthia Lee. The only thing that was holding them back from the 24 hour library was extending the library hours was the costs of security guards. So they thought to how to lower the cost is to extend library hours instead from 12 am but to 4 am versus 24 hours. Instead of having it 7 days a week to Sunday through Thursday and cutting it down on Friday and Saturday to save money on those days. During the week she proposed options that she could have the library only open during midterms and finals or have them open through midterms to finals and the committee can propose a budget. She asked if anyone else wanted to add to that.

Senator Cynthia Lee asked if it was open from Sunday to Wednesday did we decide on.

Senator Cammie Lee said it is an open door right now. It could be Sunday through Wednesday it just has to have all things weighed out for everyone.

Senator Cynthia Lee said then they calculated the costs of the security guards and if they were open for the whole semester then it would be \$14,000 a semester however if it was open for those specific days it would be lowered to \$4,000.

Senator Se asked if they would consider opening it one week after Spring Break and the last two or three weeks of finals and that would be \$4,000.

Senator Se asked what the purpose for the security guards.

Senator Cammie Lee said that they did not want the KC to be a open homeless shelter and students do pay to use that library and they want it only students because it should be for the students.

Senator Se asked would if we made it locked so students with a wolf card could use it like the dorms.

Senator Cammie Lee said that regardless we would still need security guards because if there was an emergency that happened or a fight that breaks out during library hours then we would need someone there. She also said that was some of the projects that she and Senator Cynthia Lee were working on and the volunteer abroad program. If anyone wants to help her on that they are encouraged to do so. Currently they are researching schools that are already implementing this. She believed this is good for the students so it is lowered airfare and be able to travel to other countries.

Senator Se asked if Senator Cammie Lee had considered a sponsorship.

Senator Cammie Lee said she looked into that and researched a model University and they worked with a student organization to volunteer in Uganda. They did different things that they wanted such as, they could focus on clinical work or build houses. It was one organization that they worked with but, multiple focuses they could choose from. She also asked if anyone had any other questions.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at this time.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting of the Committee on Academics was adjourned at 8:33 am.