

# Committee on Oversight

Senate of the Associated Students 85th Session  
Minutes for Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 p.m.  
Room #405, Fourth Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union

## 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Senator Martinez called the meeting for the Committee on Oversight to order at 7:30 pm in Room 405, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union. Presiding secretary, Andrea Godoy.

## 2. ROLL CALL

Senators Becker, Bussman, Cam. Lee, Flangas, Kuykendall, Martinez, and Thummel were present.

Speaker Jackson was tardy excused.

A quorum was present.

## 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

## 4. MINUTES

- a. The minutes from September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
The minutes were unavailable at this time.

## 5. REPORTS

- a. Secretary of the Senate – Andrea Godoy  
Secretary Godoy said Riley made some changes to the templates and reuploaded them up to NevadaBox. She asked they start using the new templates from now on. She asked senator Bussman if she changed the template since his heading was in a header but it was the only agenda.  
  
Senator Bussman didn't know.  
  
Secretary Godoy said they can talk later.
- b. Speaker Pro Tempore – Senator Martinez  
Senator Martinez said he was interviewing interns. They will be appointed by the third Wednesday of October. If they had questions they wanted to add to the interviews let him know. They are taking about 15-20 minutes currently. They can only take 23 interns but had 25 applications so he will drop two of them.
- c. Chair, Committee on Academics – Senator Cammie Lee  
Senator Cam. Lee said the committee met on Friday and they discussed advertising the undergrad research ward to others besides STEM majors. She also assigned members to coalitions for outreach and asked them to CC her on emails so she can make sure they are reaching out. She also spoke with Dr. Beattie about the volunteer abroad program and there

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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 Speaker Jackson at [speaker@asun.unr.edu](mailto:speaker@asun.unr.edu).



were safety measures that are needed. He suggested they talk to USAC since they were established and could help with their connections. She and Senator Cyn. Lee contacted them and hoped to meet next week.

- d. Chair, Committee on Budget and Finance – Senator Kuykendall  
Senator Kuykendall said they didn't meet this week because of an error in agendaing. In order to correct it, he had to push reviews back a week until November 7<sup>th</sup>. That week will be the same since they weren't using that date for reviews. Next week, they will see reviews for Club and Orgs, Center for Student Engagement, and Legislative Affairs. He was approached by VP Atienza about using ASUN funds to fund two more internships in the Pack Internship Program. Senator Kuykendall will work with VP Atienza on that and the legislation might be ready as soon as next week.
- e. Chair, Committee on Civic Engagement – Senator Flangas  
Senior Flangas said she, Senator Bussman, and Raul met and knocked some things off their checklist. They learned many departments don't use GivePulse and that was concerning because in order to get the Carnegie Hall designation (which was important for funding for the university), they needed to be able to document the service being done and that was what GivePulse was for. She was thinking about writing a resolution to ask other departments that had access to GivePulse but didn't use it to use GivePulse. Second thing, the committee didn't make quorum last week so this week, they will be going over everything exactly the same as last week. She was talking to Senator Cyn. Lee and Senator Cyn. Lee wanted to do a science fair for k-12 students or k-6. Her club had done it before but they wanted to expand it to all science and engineering clubs so kids can learn what engineers and scientists actually do. It was also a great way to be engaged with community, have them interact with each other, and have science clubs more civically engaged; that was one of her goals when they started. Finally, Senator Flangas will write a resolution to commemorate the victims of the Las Vegas shooting and it will be fast-tracked. They had done something like this in the past for professors that had passed away. She felt it was very important they do this.

Senator Cam. Lee asked when they will see the science fair.

Senator Flangas said they will start it this semester since Wolf Pack Reading Week was at the end of March towards the end of their term. She wanted this mid-January or during the first week of February. She wanted them to do the planning before break and be ready to go when they come back. This also gives clubs time to come up with things to do for their displays. She was hoping to bring tier 1 schools.

Senator Kuykendall asked if Senator Flangas planned on using the names of the victims or commemorating them as a group.

Senator Flangas said she hadn't written it yet they can collaborate on it. She wanted to do what was most respectful.

Senator Kuykendall said he would love to cowrite it. He cautioned her about using names and suggested they approach families first to make sure it was okay to use names.

Senator Martinez thanked her for writing this.

- f. Chair, Committee on Government Operations – Senator Thummel  
Senator Thummel said they met last week during a quick meeting. He assigned small SAS changes throughout the committee and everyone now had an assignment. The committee will meet next week.

*Speaker Jackson entered the room at 7:53 pm.*

- g. Chair, Committee on Public Affairs – Senator Becker  
Senator Becker said they will meet next Monday at 10 to go over the legacy binder so they can leave the next chair with a good understanding of what they need to do for the luncheon. The date for the luncheon was set for November 9<sup>th</sup>. He asked they please keep the date open and attend to talk to veterans. For that luncheon, they just got the process started in inviting Vice President Shannon Ellis, Gerald Marczynski, and President Marc Johnson so that should be pretty awesome. He had a meeting with inkblot to finalize the image and design for banner and advertisements.

Senator Flangas asked for the time of the luncheon.

Senator Becker said 11-2 at the Blind Onion.

- h. Chair, Committee on University Affairs – Senator Bussman  
Senator Bussman said Attorney General Harris sent him what had been done so far for elections. Other than that, he sat in on a student media advisory board as he rep for Liberal Arts. He looked over budgets for the Sagebrush, Brushfire and other student publications. There was nothing out of ordinary. Brushfire said that UNLV reached out to them to start a journal as well and they were looking for guidance so that was cool.
- i. Chair, Committee on Oversight – Speaker Jackson  
Speaker Jackson thanked them for today. They all saw the turnout and it was what people needed. She was proud to be part of an amazing group of people. For oversight, there will be people called in for censures. She had to give 5 days' notice so they will not be able to hear them until the week after next week's meeting. She planned to use the week as a time to plan and clarify their questions.

Senator Becker asked if they needed to do anything.

Speaker Jackson said she can send them things but recommended they look at the SAS, the Constitution, and the Senate Rules and read up on censures.

Senator Flangas said regarding Dustin Tool, he was excused from last week's meeting because it was a university sanctioned event. He was gone with the cheerleading team.

Speaker Jackson asked if she was notified within 24 hours.

Senator Flangas said yes. She asked how they would go about removing those points.

Secretary Godoy said when he comes in before oversight, they can take the points away then and then have the minutes amended to read that he was absent excused.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **a. NOMINATION OF DAHLIA HENDERSON TO THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS WELLNESS**

Senator Cam. Lee moved to recommend favorably the nomination of Dahlia Henderson to the Office of Director of Campus Wellness.

Senator Thummel seconded.

President Teixeira said he was happy Ms. Henderson was going up tonight. Ms. Henderson was the old senator from DHS. In her freshman year, she worked for Lombardi and was a standout individual. She was selected from a pool of applicants to apply for a facilitator supervisor position. It was almost unheard of for a freshman to receive that position because she didn't actually get the job. This showed how devoted she was to her job and how much recreation meant. She went on to work for the sports/intramural piece of Lombardi as well. Also as a sophomore, she ran for senator. In her role as a senator, she was the chair of academics and worked with Dr. Mensing to ensure the \$35,000 ASUN gave was allocated correctly and made sure they had the most applicants and recipients. Dr. Mensing usually had trouble getting diverse groups of people to apply and he usually didn't have enough students applying to fill the positions. But this last year was the most diverse pool and most positions awarded while she ran the relationship with the NSURJ. As a senator, she also worked on It's on Us tirelessly. Moving on to her qualifications for this position. As soon as they sat down to discuss the position she had already reached out to former VP Springmeyer to better develop a plan for the Pack Internship Program. She also had a lot of knowledge and interest with mental health. She was able to have an educated conversation with anyone about mental health. She will be able to make great programs and initiatives. The mental piece has been lacking in the past and he thought it will be pivotal in the future. Ms. Henderson also experience with the health center and he was so excited to see her. She and VP Atienza are already putting something together for health week.

Ms. Henderson said she was a senior at the university. She was originally from Eugene, Oregon and had only been to Nevada once before for her tour at UNR. Nevada really grew on her and didn't expect it to love it as much as she does. It had been a great experience. She was a public health major so a lot of what she does and loves is all about wellness and community wellness. She planned on going to DO school to be a doctor of osteopathic medicine; but that was in the future fortunately. AS for some of her experiences, she was in the 84<sup>th</sup> session as the Chair for Academics. She loved senate and it was a great experience. Research was a big part of her experience and went down to UNLV to help them with research. That was a good experience. She was also the vice president for Panhellenic so she knew how to plan events for thousands of individuals at a time. They had all of her documents so she won't bore them with it. She did bring a portfolio of things she had done in the past for Senate. When she applied for the position, she thought of her overarching goals and hopes for the position. She personally wanted to create a better physical, mental, and emotional student body. She wanted to make tools readily available for students; those two sentences are what she was basing her term off of. During her time as senator, she was a liaison for the Undergrad Research Journal with dr. Mensing. That kind of work will parallel over for her liaison position to the Counseling Center, Wiegand Fitness and for any other health promotion programs/coordinators that are around. This position will require a strong liaison and she had that experience. It was lot of helping others that did health events so they could be more successful. She really wanted to make a goal of developing and growing existing programs such as It's on Us, Green Dot, and other campaigns as well as things like making campaigns to encourage students to go to Wiegand. She put on all of Greek Week last year and it took a spark in events to make people excited for events, as many were for Greek Week last year. She really wanted to add that to the current events and programs they had. She wanted to get students excited about them rather than seeing them as something that was

mandatory. It should bond individuals and grow mental and physical health. She loved the idea of health week and it seemed like everything she loved in one week. She wanted to expand that. In stalling ideas for it, she wanted to get more students involved. Currently, it was them putting on events and seeing who came. There wasn't much involvement from students and she wanted to change that by maybe having a student put on an event. She wanted more investment from the student body; with physical, mental, and emotional health you had to have that type of investment. They won't get anywhere if people don't care. Since this was about someone else's health, they won't be able to change anything unless that person cared. Some other ideas for health week were a healthy barbeque. Their current barbeques were red meat and chips and those weren't very healthy. She wanted to add things like turkey and veggie burgers; alternatives that showed students the university would be healthy. She brought some of her ideas for the plans in the SAS since she wanted to come prepared. She brainstormed programs to come with momentum since she was going to be starting late in the year. If appointed, she wanted to get started right away. Everything she brought was just rough ideas and examples of some of the options. For the Walk to School project, most schools in Washoe County did this. She thought that the university could partner with the elementary schools that do this and lead by example. These kids walk to school or bike and yet they drive. It was more of a priority for them than for educated individuals, especially because many of them had the ability to get to school without being in a vehicle. She did talk to former VP Springmeyer about PackFIT. It was such a success last year and was awesome. She thought programs like that deserved attention so she wanted to focus on them in order to gather information on the wellbeing of this campus. You can touch many areas through them; she didn't want to neglect any aspects of health and wanted to cover mental, emotional, and physical health. This program was a great way to do that since it had all the resources already there. The plan she had was an expansion based on what VP Springmeyer told her. He told her the merchandise was amazing and everyone wanted it. She had a hat from that she loved. She wanted to keep key things like that in the programs. Something she threw in there that wasn't there was UN food diaries. She was a foodie on Instagram and loved to see what others make. She was thinking that students could send in what they make with a hashtag. Those were the promotional things she had started to work on. She wanted to close off by saying she was really excited to work on this campus.

Senator Kuykendall said her ideas in terms of sponsoring eating well was great but there was a population of students that didn't have access to the types of foods that were healthy. He asked if she had plans to work with Pack Provisions to sponsor healthy eating for those that can't pay for it.

Ms. Henderson said yes. That would be the main focus of the nutritional aspect. Especially, if they will do other events that had food. She was trying to get Pack Provision's name out there. It would be great to have them attend any events like that so students knew they were a resource. She understood they can't provide all the food so with that, she wanted to give students resources to find healthier foods even if they were not conventional things like organic or fruits/vegetables.

Senator Becker said some initiatives that might be assigned to her had to do with It's on Us and Green Dot training. He asked if she had plans for Green Dot.

Ms. Henderson hadn't looked into that too much. She knew only a little but that was a huge goal for her to adapt and develop the existing programs. That would take precedent since it was a duty in the SAS. She didn't want to plan something without having done research. She knew more about PackFIT because of her meeting with former VP Springmeyer. She did want to grow Green Dot but had no specifics yet.

Senator Kuykendall asked if her programs will be year-round.

Ms. Henderson not as of now. She will start so late in the semester that she didn't want to push a campaign out for the sake of having it. This will all happen in 2018. She also planned on revamping programs every spring and every fall. The fall was the time to work on the initiatives and changes and add new things. If they had programs all year, they won't have anyone to work on them during the summer and they won't be able to wash out what was unnecessary or not prevalent. She wanted to make sure it was unique every year. If programs ran all year, they would lose a bit of a spark. They also needed more concrete foundations for PackFIT.

Senator Coma. Lee said considering it was a new position, she asked why this position was needed and what would be different this year from last year.

Ms. Henderson said a lot of the things they mentioned earlier were all initiatives taken by faculty and staff. As students, there were some clubs that tackled these kinds of issues but there wasn't a unified body for this. She saw this position as being the grandmother that made sure you had food in your fridge. She was making sure resources were available and accessible and nothing fell through the cracks. Those programs are being carried out by others but his position was there to be a support and be a grandmother to those that are already doing it. It helped get students interested in helping others and gave them the best experience possible while they attend UNR.

Senator Cam. Lee going off that, she asked if Ms. Henderson saw any flaws they had now.

Ms. Henderson said yes. There was room for growth in the areas. Like President Teixeira said, there was not a lot of things missing for mental health. It was hard because health was touchy to everyone. They needed to incorporate ideas that are lacking in the programs they already had. It shouldn't be easy because it was touchy. She wanted to make sure they incorporated all elements of health since she felt mental health was missing.

Senator Thummel said she mentioned PackFIT. in regard to Health Week, he asked how it fell into this.

Ms. Henderson said she was spewing ideas she had thought of but nothing was set in stone. Personally, she didn't talk much with anyone that would be involved but she would love for PackFIT to be a branch of health week. PackFIT can incorporate many different things.

Senator Flangas was wondering if she had contacted any groups that worked with mental health like no Stigma Nevada

Ms. Henderson said yes. She hadn't contacted any clubs but that would be part of her plan. She was thinking that if appointed, she would break down what they had so far and see what aspects were touched including club initiatives, blood drives, health center, mental health, and clubs and orgs will be part of her review. She wanted to see what students had already and partner with them.

Senator Flangas asked if she would submit the review to senate or oversight.

Ms. Henderson said it will take a couple of weeks but absolutely. Because the position was so new, they needed to set a foundation rather than running in blindly. She will go over that with exec and them if they wanted.

Senator Martinez asked how she would measure the success of this position and for events.

Ms. Henderson said the easiest way was to measure an event was by how many attended and were interacting. The first step was to ask people if they were there interacting and knew what was going on and why the event was being held or if they are just there for food.

Senator Martinez said she talked about data, the SAS said she had to convey information related to the health of individuals and of initiatives through data. He asked if she had thought of that or if surveys were her only idea.

Ms. Henderson said when they gave surveys they had bias. They had students that would not share their secrets in the survey and that made it hard. They need to collect data from the majority of students to have accurate readings. They would be going off the information that willing individuals gave and they needed to make sure the research pool was big enough so they had a representation of all students.

President Teixeira said he wrote this position, he did so with the intention of changing it. It was very temporary for now and just wanted the position to be open. After the year is over, they will sit down and review the position to see what worked and what didn't, what can be added or taken out or see if they even needed this position.

Senator Bussman asked if she had a rough idea for a budget given her late appointment or if she will even use it.

Ms. Henderson said no. She didn't plan for a budget for the position. She was actually having ideas for cosponsoring events. they had DHS senators that would want to put on events that had budgets. Form that position, she was trying to move to working with individuals. Rather than start her own programs, she wanted to allocate resources and funds to those that currently exist. She really wanted to work with Senate and those organizations that already did these events. She wanted to support these events and find ways to make them more productive and have more attend. She didn't dive into the budget since she dint know where it was coming from. Her main goal was cosponsor ship and getting current events to be the best they could be.

Senator Kuykendall clarified that the director didn't have a budget for events. She would pull from the operating account from exec.

President Teixeira said it was like when Chief of Staff Bradley wanted to have an event; she just asks him. Just like when no one asked her about a budget during her nomination, the same principles apply to Ms. Henderson's nomination. She didn't have a budget for the year. If they see fit for a budget, the next president can take that into consideration.

Ms. Henderson said the budget in this case was awesome but they didn't need money to make the position.

Senator Bussman said on topic of data, the sexual assault data he had came from the Office of Student Persistence. They had faculty that went to school to conduct studies. Their entire purpose there was to conduct studies. That would be a good resource if she wanted to conduct a large-scale health survey.

Ms. Henderson said when she mentioned conducting health studies it wasn't her actually doing it. She meant reaching out to organizations on campus that already had the data and asking if they can use it too.

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

Senator Martinez said Ms. Henderson was passionate and great. He wanted to keep her accountable to really revamp the position and ask what worked and what didn't. Maybe they can find ways to divide the position and send it somewhere else. She had concrete ideas but splitting it up could be good too.

Speaker Jackson wanted to create a date to have meeting with the directors of Diversity and Inclusion and Campus Wellness to figure out those things and make SAS changes before the session ends.

Senator Martinez asked if she wanted it done before elections.

Speaker Jackson said any time at the end of the session as long as they had adequate time to make changes.

Senator Kuykendall didn't want to reiterate Senator Martinez's statements. She was a great candidate but had some gray areas like with Green Dot. He urged them to ask questions when she gives reports at senate to make sure she fills in the gaps.

Speaker Jackson said that if she is to be approved, make sure to ask those types of questions afterwards when she gives her reports during Senate.

Senator Flangas would say her goals were very thought out and had many applications. She had done event planning in the past and that made her a strong candidate but she wanted plans on mental health. Ms. Henderson had plans for physical health but not so much for mental.

Senator Becker said she brought up doing surveys that others had done in order to relay their progress as a university and make actions according to the needs of the data.

There was no further discussion; motion to recommend favorably carried.

**b. NOMINATION OF HANNAH NAGY TO THE OFFICE OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**

Senator cam. Lee moved to recommend favorably the nomination of Hannah Nagy to the Office of Assistant Director for the Department of Diversity and Inclusion.

Senator Martinez seconded.

Director Gbenjo said when she come before them in oversight, she was asked what she was looking for in a board. She really emphasized having passion-driven individuals that wanted to make a change. As they had been saying, this department was very new so this year was about building up the structure. She looked for individuals that she knew would be dedicated to the cause and who would better themselves. Whit Ms. Nagy, she was everything Director Gbenjo wanted. Ms. Nagy had connections to many groups on campus. Being only one person, it was hard to reach out to everyone; Ms. Nagy will help her understand different groups. Ms. Nagy didn't have ASUN experience but was willing to learn and knew they will work well together.

Ms. Nagy said: Hello. My name is Hannah Nagy, and I am applying for the position of Assistant Director of Diversity and Inclusion. I am currently a senior majoring in public health and minoring in counseling and substance abuse technologies. Throughout my time at the university, I have become involved with several organizations both on and off campus, such as: Nevada Student Ambassadors, Northern Nevada HOPES, Hillel of Northern Nevada, Queer Student Union, Peer Health Educators, and TRiO Scholars. With all of this, I currently work at The Center: Every Student. Every Story., I am a research Assistant under Dr. Karla Wagner, and I am a recipient of the Nevada Undergraduate Research Award- currently conducting a study titled "Closing the Gap: Transgender Healthcare and Discrimination Throughout Northern Nevada". I am applying for this position because we can all agree that our university is under a spotlight right now, and expanding this department is a really prominent first step with showing ASUN cares about the student body, and I want to be a part of that. To sum up my overall goal for the year in a sentence, it is to enhance diversity awareness and education through learning opportunities for faculty, staff and students. I have several "sub" goals and routes to make this happen. The first is to expand Ally Training. Right now most of you probably know that we have some like UndocuAlly Training, and LGBT Ally Training, but I want to expand these to include trainings on race and religion. I plan on working with Ricky from The Center, who is my boss and the coordinator of ally training, and to have both of us reach out to clubs and organizations to find representatives to run these workshops (with prior approval of content and proper training). Second, I would like to plan and execute at least one event per month that prompts thought, input, and education. I want to use the Charlottesville panel as an example on how we don't need to pay 5 or 6 figures to bring someone in to get a discussion started. I really like the idea of utilizing resources we already have on campus because that builds relationships and trust between the student body and faculty. Next, I'd like to create an events newsletter that will lay out events happening both on and off campus for that month. It will also list the ally trainings available and who to contact. This newsletter will be sent to the clubs and orgs list serve, as well as different departments on campus. Professors will be encouraged to share this with their students. I really like the idea of open communication too, so sending this out will allow them to respond with any events they would like to add for the following month, or just to add input. Moving on, I'd like to create an exit survey for departing students and faculty. The survey will include questions regarding their awareness of resources, events, educational opportunities etc. This survey will provide a measurement for our department to see if what we are doing is working. Lastly, with this being a new position, that means a lot of room for trial and error. That is why I would like to create a manual for whoever takes over this position next year. The manual will include a timeline of what we did, every email we sent out, what worked, what didn't, and things we wish we would have done but just did not have the time to. All of these tasks listed above are also really good projects for interns to get involved in, as it allows them to get a good idea of event planning, communication (especially with diversity being a very sensitive subject for some), and education of resources that are available and how to create those resources if they are not available. These sum up how I would like to build the structure of this department, I really look forward to this upcoming year with you all!

Senator Flangas loved her ideas and was very excited. She asked if Ms. Nagy had plans to cover the internship.

Ms. Nagy said she could reach out to all clubs but she wanted to get interns to talk to clubs. She did this with The Center already to let them take over the Center for discussions. Interns would get to get involved in club events and ASUN events.

Senator Martinez said she mentioned sending out a graduation survey. He asked what she would do with the data.

Ms. Nagy said she would discuss it with Director Gbenjo to see how to target students more. They were starting this late in the year so they could start at Welcome Week.

Senator Thummel asked if the ally training was run by students.

Ms. Nagy said it depended. The LGBTQ training was usually run by Ricky Salazar but she knew the undocu-ally training was run by a student that works in the Las Vegas office. Both of them had degrees in this kind of thing and they were trained. The trainings were very surface level and were more of a sensitivity training. It didn't push anything but more so taught you how to be a decent human being.

Senator Kuykendall loved her ideas of reaching out to clubs and orgs since that was an insane amount of people. For students not part of clubs or orgs, he asked how she would be promoting diversity and enhancing education to them.

Ms. Nagy also wanted to include departments and professors on campus to find information and to them.

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

Speaker Jackson said they were working on doing the ally training after a senate meeting.

Senator Kuykendall said he noticed she showed enthusiasm and was excited when she talked. He thought with this being new, she was able to communicate ideas coherently. It was up to the department to form how it was supposed to be and having the excitement was necessary. He wanted to thank director Gbenjo for bringing Ms. Nagy to the table.

Senator Marines echoed Senator Kuykendall's statements. She addressed the problems they had already. She talked about how they don't need to pay for big speakers and could have their professors talk to build connections. It was amazing she noticed things they could change already.

Senator Flangas thought her goal to create events that promote thought, input, and education was exactly what they should be doing as a higher education institution. She had a good grasp of what the department should be moving towards and that counters any lack of ASUN experience.

Senator Becker said her idea of an exit survey was super awesome. Many of their departments, like wellness and not just diversity, would benefit from that kind of thing.

Speaker Jackson agreed that they should all see exit surveys.

There was no further discussion at this time; the body moved to a vote.

Motion to recommend favorably carried.

**c. NOMINATION OF AYANNA RELEFORD TO THE OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF PROJECTS AND EVENTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**

Senator Cam. Lee moved to recommend favorably the nomination of Ayanna Releford to the Office of Commissioner of Projects and Events for the Department of Diversity and Inclusion.

Senator Martinez seconded.

Director Gbenjo said Ms. Releford was a great candidate. She has a passion for the department and was willing to learn. She will be great for the department.

Ms. Releford said: I am a sophomore at the University of Nevada Reno and I am interested in the ASUN position of Commissioner of Projects and Events for the department of Diversity and Inclusion. With my background as a fluent Spanish speaker, a member of ABLE Women and the Secretary & Marketing Director of Nevada Cyber Club, I have ample amounts of experience regarding coordinating events for diversity and representation on campus which makes me a great candidate for this position. In December of 2016 I joined Nevada Cyber Club and in May of 2017 I was elected as the Secretary and Marketing Director. With my position, I assist in the organization of club events, direct club meetings, oversee club attendance/demographics, send out mass emails, manage social media accounts and create events aimed towards the inclusion of people of color and women technology. Holding this elected office position allowed me to gain the skills and knowledge of professionally collaborating on an executive board. In August of 2016, I joined ABLE Women, an organization apart of the Black Cultural Cooperative at the University of Nevada, Reno. As a second-year member of ABLE Women, I have participated in many community service events aimed toward empowering young women of color in our community. Also, I have assisted in the organization of our events on campus. I have been studying Spanish for six years and in May of 2016 I received the Nevada State Seal of Biliteracy which verifies my abilities to fluently and proficiently speak, read and write in Spanish. Being able to speak the two most common languages in this country has allowed me to relate and work with countless communities. Due to my biliteracy, I was able to travel to Peru and be a translator on school trips and work with orphanages. Being a fluent Spanish Speaker, a member of ABLE Women and the Secretary of Nevada Cyber Club has endowed me with great experience advocating and celebrating diversity, inclusion and representation at the University of Nevada, Reno. Thank you so much for your time and I hope you consider me for this opportunity.

Senator Kuykendall said in terms of advertising The Center, he asked how she would go about that. He asked if she would establish liaisons or what is the methodology.

Ms. Releford said this was her second year living on campus. She saw flyers for everything on campus but never saw a flyer for the Center and she thought that would awesome. She felt there should be an event that advertised the resources available like the Center, BCC, and multicultural sororities and fraternities. There should be more awareness for students.

Senator Cam. Lee asked what plans she had to include minorities in Greek life

Ms. Releford said with ally training and things like that. She felt that much of Greek life had a stigma of not being opening or welcoming to minorities. Doing trainings for them would be awesome but also publicizing what those organizations meant for minorities.

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

Senator Flangas wanted to note that at the end of speech, Ms. Releford mentioned a resource fair with the resources available to minority students. That was the best idea she had ever heard. She thought the body should tell Ms. Releford to mention that earlier. Senator Flangas liked that Ms. Nagy realized the resources needed to be better.

Senator Martinez said she highlighted a problem that needed to be discussed, even if it was touchy. She wasn't afraid to say what needed to be worked on and what needed to be exposed. She didn't know why anyone hadn't thought of this yet.

Senator Thummel loved her idea to promote multicultural Greek organizations on campus.

Motion to recommend favorably carried.

**d. NOMINATION OF IVY TEFAY TO THE OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND POLICY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**

Senator Cam. Lee moved to recommend favorably the nomination of Ivy Tesfay to the Office of Commissioner of Social Justice and Policy for the Department of Diversity and Inclusion. Senator Thummel seconded.

Director Gbenjo said when she came in, she was passionate about issues seen today. She really wanted to take action, do more, and be more on campus in terms of social justice. Social justice was very important to her and that was going to be big part of department rather than throwing events only. She wanted people to feel that they were getting justice they deserved or feel that they are being heard and actions are taken when things do happen. She wanted to make social justice be more present on campus.

Ms. Tesfay said she was a freshman at UNR. If she could describe herself in four words they would be: quick, curious, playful, and strong. Quick because she has fast reflexes. Curious because she always wants to learn new things. Playful because she loves to joke around. Strong because she had been through hardships in her life. She was very passionate about equality and current social justice issues; that is why she was a great fit for the department. She also worked well under pressure. She had been in many leadership positions in the past. A short-term goal was to resolve any social or diversity issues she encounters. For long term goals, she wanted to put into action that all humans had equal rights and this diversity should be recognized. She also wanted to commit to recruiting, retaining, and training diverse sets of faculty and staff. Some ideas she had included tracking all incidents of social injustice and tracing the root of the problem. Also, she wanted to use social media more to find answers to things they didn't know. Ultimately, she was a hard-working individual with leadership and hard-working skills and minute attentions to detail. She was seeking to apply her abilities to fill this position. She was extremely dedicated and a team player that can be relied upon to help ASUN achieve its goals. She wanted to help the campus be more safe and inclusive. The campus should rejoice in their differences rather than obscure their similarities.

Senator Becker said a duty in the SAS said researching diverse and inclusive initiatives at other universities. He asked if she had done the research yet.

Ms. Tesfay said not yet but she planned to. She was the first person to have this job and knew of this so she will look into it.

Senator Kuykendall said in terms of social justice and policy, one thing ASUN lacked was a diverse driven perspective for drafting legislation that catered to diverse groups on campus. He asked how she planned to work with not just his department but also Senate.

Ms. Tesfay was new and didn't know much about ASUN but she was passionate about diversity and inclusion. Many people in this day in age had not been heard and she wanted to be the peaceful voice of the people. In talking with Director Gbenjo and other coworkers, she wanted to implement new ideas and include more minorizes.

Senator Martinez asked if she planned on working with different departments. They had the department of Leg. Affairs and they were always at city hall or with senate to write legislation for diversity and inclusion.

Ms. Tesfay said the more she gets the feel for everything, the more she will branch out and reach other departments. She also wanted to learn about clubs and research them as well; that would be great. She was interested in Our Center, Our Story since they had an open platform and plan something with racism or diversity. She was also in ABLE and BSO and come together to implement new ideas.

Senator Becker said in terms of writing legislation and getting perspective of school, something she could do was come to the Public Affairs meetings to give input on diverse perspectives so they can write legislation.

Ms. Tesfay said if she got the position, she would talk to more people on campus. She was just elected as the floor rep for Peavine so she wanted to talk to everyone there.

There was no further discussion at this time; the body moved to discussion.

Senator Becker said her passion was there and they brought up good points that Director Gbenjo should reiterate before going before Senate.

Senator Martinez agreed, especially along lines of what Senator Becker said regarding her looking into other initiatives from other universities for diversity and inclusion. She should have more thoughts or ideas to present to senate. Even though she was new, he wanted something tangible to keep her accountable.

Senator Kuykendall said along that and going back to his question to about working with senators to raft legislation, he thought one of the biggest things they can do is be proactive. They need to incorporate her and the entire department when they make those kinds of decisions. He felt they weren't doing enough.

Speaker Jackson said it was important to note she hadn't been here a year yet. Will be great resource for them and should use her for sure.

Motion to recommend favorably carried.

## 7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Speaker Jackson wanted to say she was proud of them and was happy to be here.

Senator Kuykendall gave a shout out to Speaker Jackson for the vigil today.

Speaker Jackson gave a shout out to Director Gbenjo too for helping.

Senator Becker said this event was something that they did when something bad happened but he still felt they should have something documented for this kind of thing. They can write down what went well and what didn't to make sure they had the proper resources ready. It went well but it could have gone better.

Speaker Jackson agreed.

Senator Kuykendall said they can talk after the meeting.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Speaker Jackson adjourned the meeting at 9:05 pm