

# Committee on Oversight

Senate of the Associated Students 85th Session  
Minutes for Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</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 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 absent excused.

A quorum was present.

## 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

## 4. MINUTES

- a. The minutes from October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017
- b. The minutes from October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017
- c. The minutes from November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Senator Thummel moved to approve the minutes from October 17<sup>th</sup>, October 24<sup>th</sup>, and November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 by unanimous consent.

There was no dissent; motion carried.

## 5. REPORTS

- a. Secretary of the Senate – Andrea Godoy  
Secretary Godoy said some of them have been changing their times without saying anything and it makes it hard for secretaries to attend the meetings. Please don't change your times but if you have to give us a heads up so we can plan accordingly. Sometimes we just look on the website and last minute find out that committee meetings are not when they are supposed to be.

Senator Bussman said he was trying to back on track with his Friday meetings but holidays kept messing it up.

Senator Thummel said holidays mess with Friday meetings.

Secretary Godoy understood that but asked they let the secretaries now in advance when they di change meeting times so they can make sure someone is there.

- b. Speaker Pro Tempore – Senator Martinez  
Senator Martinez said: I have also been having 1 on 1 meetings with the interns regarding their final project. I have just been in contact with all of the interns sending them to directors and

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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).



senators, and we are finishing up pretty strong, and I hope you all continue to work with your intern to the best of your ability.

Senator Thummel asked if they need a presentation for the meeting tomorrow.

Senator Martinez said they can have a rundown of the committee and times but nothing fancy. It was only a 3-5-minute presentation.

Senator Flangas asked if they should submit a picture to him by a certain date.

Senator Martinez said no; they are just creating a presentation for themselves.

Senator Cam. Lee asked if Senator Martinez could review her presentation since it was all done.

Senator Martinez said he will.

Senator Becker asked if he had schedule of when they should be going.

Senator Martinez said yes, he emailed them about two weeks ago with it. he already made the agenda with a set order but if he needed to rearrange it because of conflicts let him know.

c. Chair, Committee on Academics – Senator Cammie Lee

Senator Cam. Lee said: My committee has a meeting this upcoming Friday. My lovely intern Sarah posted all my agendas bless her soul. We will be discussing more on the libraries since Senator Lippi currently has more data about that from Dean Ray and his intern helping him with this project. I really want us to draft some legislation or at least start on a resolution. Even if we do not have enough data from the libraries, it would still be a good idea to start on it with what we are given. We will also be discussing more on Faculty of the Year. On Thursday, Senator Cyn. Lee, Sarwar and I have a meeting with the Assistant Vice Provost Furukawa for the topic of changing Neuroscience Advising. I am excited for that meeting and will give updates to you guys and my committee on what we will discuss. I am relieved that the NURA applications closed yesterday. The department of undergraduate research will be giving out the reviewer packets by this week. I look forward to reading the proposals that some students have written.

d. Chair, Committee on Budget and Finance – Senator Kuykendall

Senator Kuykendall said they met today and did financial reviews for the Judicial Council, the Exec. Board account, and Clubs and Orgs. The reviews will be out next week so they can review them before Senate this week. He was missing one more review that will be sent out before senate and then they will be back on track. One other thing, during the committee meeting, he skipped over a bill that he was written for that meeting. The bill was just to update the operation budget. He will ask Speaker Jackson to fast track it for next week. The bill just changes the Club Support Funding Manager's title to Assistant Director to reflect what the SAS says. He has a meeting tomorrow at 4:30 with Director Rodriguez, Senator Thummel, and Speaker Jackson to discuss the future of financial review summaries to make them public documents. He plans to blast the dean listserv to urge them to talk to professors to work with the Wolf Shop as per his duties in the Senate Rules.

Senator Flangas said they can end stuff to Speaker Jackson before it is talked about at committee meetings.

Senator Kuykendall said he hadn't done that because his meetings are on Tuesday and can do things well in advance before Speaker Jackson posts agendas. That was more for committees who had meetings on Fridays.

Senator Thummel asked if they had meeting next week.

Senator Martinez said no.

Senator Bussman asked if he could elaborate on the dean thing with the Wolf Shop.

Senator Kuykendall wanted to contact the deans of all the colleges to reiterate they needed to get textbook entries to the Wolf Shop on time. Otherwise the textbook requisitions are high.

Senator Bussman asked if that was in the SAS.

Senator Kuykendall said it was in the Senate Rules said: "...as well as coordinating presentations to academic departments about the importance of professors." He needed to conduct presentations to academic departments but that was something the deans would never buy into; he would rather have an email be sent.

Senator Bussman said that was what he was doing with the Wolf Shop and trying to formulate better ways to approach them. They are already in communication with all departments since that was what they do. He was in discussion with Director Dubey about giving the departments commissions for the money saved when they turn in requests early. If they sent that email saying they should do it, it would be ineffective since that's already being done.

Senator Kuykendall wanted to work with Senator Bussman on that.

Senator Bussman hadn't scheduled the next meeting yet but he will include him on the emails.

Senator Kuykendall said a lot of business students had hard times registering for classes because they are at a severe deficit with professors and open classes. He knew it was a problem across the university so he wanted to formulate some plan to get some attention drawn, maybe write a resolution.

Senator Thummel wanted to work with him on it.

Senator Cam. Lee asked if it was lack of professors or late registration dates.

Senator Flangas said this was affecting journalism students too. there weren't enough teachers and class offerings and classes conflicted with each other. There was a lack of teacher and class times.

Senator Thummel said when he and the other business senators met with their dean, the dean told them that the college of business had the highest student to professor ratio.

Senator Kuykendall said their dean said the problem was that the university was building new structures that added zero classrooms. They are going to make a new building for fine arts but it was not related to anything but arts. None of the new buildings added real classrooms. The new engineering building added lab space, not classrooms. They were supplemental rooms.

Senator Becker said they made new dorms without the facilities to educate those students. They had a STEM building without the space to educate them.

Senator Flangas said the money for the buildings came from a grant from people that wanted to build a dorm for STEM students. When you get a grant, you cannot divert the money for other purposes; it must be used for what it is intended for.

Senator Thummel said the next business building will focus on having classrooms.

Senator Bussman asked if lack of professors was because of a lack of funding or not drawing enough talent.

Senator Kuykendall said the dean didn't admit it but what he gathered was that they didn't have the necessary talent and teachers to supplement students. He has seen three accounting professors either retire or leave; that was alarming considering there was few to begin with.

Senator Flangas said recruiting happened within colleges, not the university. The dean decides how much money to allot for recruitment. She wanted to point out that liberal arts didn't have a single college dedicated to it. In terms of building space, it was a problem for all colleges. If he did write a resolution it should address that all the colleges are struggling with building space.

Senator Thummel said liberal arts is getting Ansari once they leave.

Senator Bussman asked if that was confirmed.

Senator Flangas said yes.

Senator Kuykendall said it wasn't confirmed but it was implied since liberal arts took up most of the building anyways. If that trend continued and there were no business classes happening there, it would make sense for liberal arts to take over.

Senator Martinez asked Senator Kuykendall work with Senator Cam. Lee since it was academics related issue. He thought many senators would find interest in this.

Senator Cam. Lee wanted to work with him. She didn't know that was a problem. Her college had its own set of problems, but registration wasn't as big a problem with her.

e. Chair, Committee on Civic Engagement – Senator Flangas

Senator Flangas said today they received a thank you letter from the Sheriff's department in Las Vegas about the resolution to honor the victims. They were excited to see it and were touched by it. Dr. Beattie had the idea of contacting veterans' services to see if they would do a flag retirement ceremony for them. They will incorporate a lot of people once this happens. She will attend University Affairs meetings to work on that. For the next meeting, they will get an update from Senators Kuykendall and Thummel about the hour requirements. They were supposed to also talk about the resolution that President Teixeira presented. It was a new twist on civic engagement by using ASUN money in our local community. However, she misgendered the legislation so they will hear it next week. She had interns reach out to the res halls and was able to get two halls to respond; they will host two of the tables at the science fair. That was exciting since they are clubs on campus too.

- f. Chair, Committee on Government Operations – Senator Thummel  
Senator Thummel said they have two pieces of legislation going through senate tomorrow's they were heard at his committee last week. There is a meeting on Friday to discuss the resolution in support of ADA accessibility for online agendas. He is working with director Rodriguez on the way the SAS is worded for presidential appointments. Currently it stated that the president must appoint a cabinet within 1 weeks of being elected. That has never been done because it is not possible. He is also working with Senator Martinez to write legislation for the two positions under the elections chair. Anything that does go through would be for next session.
- g. Chair, Committee on Public Affairs – Senator Becker  
Senator Becker thanked them for attending the luncheon. He got good feedback and had emails forwarded. It turned out really well and he couldn't have done it without them. Madeline Purdue will write a report about the luncheon in the Sagebrush. He wanted to touch on what Senator Flangas said. If they wanted help with the veterans' office, let him know since he had great connections there. He would be happy to help them if they wanted to incorporate the flag ceremony. He will be debriefing with his intern and meeting with Director Walberg for the K-12 outreach program.
- h. Chair, Committee on University Affairs – Senator Bussman  
Senator Bussman said he will meet with Dr. Ellis tomorrow to talk about feedback for Innovations at Nevada. The VP for Research and Innovations is working on setting up a meeting with all his faculty.
- i. Chair, Committee on Oversight – Speaker Jackson  
Senator Martinez read the report into the record:  
Good evening everyone. I want to apologize for not being at tonight's meeting. I will for sure be at Senate tomorrow, but I have a family obligation tonight that I could not miss. Thank you all for being understanding! Senator Ryan Becker deserves a huge shout out because of his work on the Veteran's luncheon. Please give him a round of applause! A big "thank you" also goes to every senator that showed up to the event. The Veteran's Services Office was so happy with the banner, the luncheon, and how engaged the senators were. It was a truly amazing and everyone should be so proud! Another heartwarming update for all of you, and especially all who co-sponsored the Las Vegas Resolution - Sheriff Joseph Lombardo from the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department sent me a letter. He wanted to thank us for sending it to him, as well as let us know that they will be hanging the resolution in the library of the Metropolitan Police Department Headquarters. If you would like to see the actual card, Senator Flangas has a picture of it. It is also in my office if you would like to take a look at it. Here are a few updates on some projects that I am working on: ElectHer is this Saturday. We are in the process of securing last-minute details. We had nearly 70 people sign up for the workshop. I cannot wait to see some of you there and to hopefully see as many people as possible run for office come spring. I still have not gotten all of the specific information regarding the exact pricing of Democracy Plaza, but regardless I will be presenting the proposal to the Senate tomorrow. I will also be sending the presentation to the Senate so you can use it to get constituent feedback. As you all know, reapportionment has been a larger task than we originally thought. I am currently in the process of obtaining enrollment numbers of the academic colleges from Institutional Analysis, and a few questions answered about Undeclared Students. I think this information is necessary for crafting viable options for representation. I apologize for not having it done this week for us to discuss, but when we meet next week we can discuss the matter fully. I have contacted the Candidates for the open CABNR Seat. The special election will be held on Wednesday, November 29th. I will send the supplemental documents over once I agendaize for the meeting. After the feedback ASUN

received from the #DearUNR event, I think it is important that we have another public forum, similar to the Charlottesville Meeting. Students said that they would appreciate if our meeting was in an accessible location in which many students could know about and attend, even if they were just passing by. So, today I booked the KC Rotunda for our December 6th Senate meeting. I wanted to ask you all what you think are important topics you would like discussed at this meeting. I will be working on a list of general topics and questions to be discussed, and I was thinking that we could focus this meeting on student safety. Given the recent events on our campus this semester, as well as the proposal of the INTO Program, I think it is important that we know and can document student sentiments regarding these issues in order to be proactive moving forward. But again, this is just my idea. I really want all of your opinions and insight on this. Thank you all for being as amazing as always. I will see you tomorrow! Sincerely, Speaker Jackson.”

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business at this time.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Senator Kuykendall said his question was about his idea for a resolution with classes and maybe doing an open forum. However, since they were doing another forum, he asked what they thought of it.

Senator Flangas said a big idea she has been told by her constituents is that students should be factored into deciding class times. A lot of students find conflict with classes they wanted to take within the same year. They felt that if students were consulted, many of the conflicts could be eliminated. She suggested a student panel that is consulted before class times are set. They can write a resolution in support of that or have a forum to see if students are in support of that.

Senator Bussman said a class that he needs is on Saturday only next semester.

Senator Kuykendall said they have beaten this topic to death, but he was curious about what they thought of having an open forum for this like with campus safety. He also asked if they should hold off on it until after the campus safety forum or have them together. When he was thinking about it, he felt students should have a voice too.

Senator Flangas said they should invite them to a university affairs meeting or an academics meeting. There should do a forum since classes are upsetting many students but they shouldn't have that forum right now since the next one is for campus safety and they don't want to detract from that.

Senator Ca. Lee said that a senate meeting for the public forum would be better given that academics meets at 8:30 am on Fridays.

Senator Kuykendall suggested they use her committee to host the forum but have it at a different time.

Senator Ca. Lee asked what the size would be.

Senator Kuykendall was thinking that it would be too big for a conference room but not big enough for something like Charlottesville. He thought they can use the senate chambers.

Senator Flangas thought the KC Rotunda was a great idea because it was a central location. So many people came out to the last forum because they were repeatedly told about the date and time and location.

Senator Becker said they can talk to speaker Jackson to help plan it.

Senator Flangas said they should invite the deans so they can hear what students are saying.

Senator Lee said this will take a lot of planning.

Senator Bussman said it would be difficult to get all deans there.

Senator Flangas said they should invite them and tell them why so that they can send a representative to the meeting.

Senator Kuykendall said it would be shady, but they can peer pressure the deans by advertising that they have been invited to the forum. That way it would be embarrassing if they didn't come.

Senator Flangas agreed. She also thought they should create the forum around finals when they are in the library anyways. That way, they would be upset about not being able to get into classes.

Senator Bussman said that if it was during finals, people might not come.

Senator Flangas said people would come.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Senator Martinez adjourned the meeting at 8:01 pm.