

Committee on Public Affairs

Senate of the Associated Students 85th Session
Minutes for Friday, January 26th, 2018 at 12:30 p.m.
Joe Crowley Student Union Room 406

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Becker called the meeting of the Committee on Public Affairs on January 26th, 2018, in room 406 of the Joe Crowley Student Union at

ROLL CALL

Chair Becker and Senators Compton, Cook, Lippi, Senator Paningbatan, and Tool were present. Senators Tralmer and Sarwar were absent excused. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

MINUTES

- a. There are no minutes to be heard at this time.

Chair Becker said there were minutes to be approved but they were not agendized, they would be heard next week.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. There is no old business to be discussed at this time.



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.

If you would like a copy of any of the agenda items listed, please contact Senator Becker at senatorbecker@asun.unr.edu.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Review of the Past Semester

Chair Becker said they had a successful 911 convention and veterans luncheon. They had one piece of legislation from Senator Sarwar about DACA. Sarwar would have to resign from senate because she has a class conflict. They created a great legacy binder, both physical and online in the NevadaBox.

b. Goals for This Semester

Chair Becker said the committee would collaborate on goals and possibly create a new event. There was legislation in the agenda from an intern from legislative affairs. They would review the legislation for errors and make sure it represented the students and constituents. They would need to have a senator cosponsor the legislation. They would have to vote on that legislation.

Senator Paningbatan said he had two pieces of legislation. The first one was inspired by a class he took over Wintermester about stopping the spread of AIDS. He wrote a 15 page paper. They wanted to put condoms in vending machines that they have in UNR. There were a lot of empty spots in the vending machines in the KC. He thought that was a problem because they only get free condoms from the health center, which is open from 8-5, hours which don't work for many students. By putting them in the vending machine it would give students more access. The CDC says that distribution programs are effective in stopping the spread of disease.

Senator Lippi said would those be free

Senator Paningbatan said they would get the condoms that were being sold and put them in the KC

Hannab Jackson entered the room at 12:37 PM

Dr. Beattie asked if the Joe was open more hours than the KC

Senator Paningbatan said the KC was open until one

Dr. Beattie said a vending machine outside the Wolfshop might be better. It's where people would normally go.

Senator Paningbatan said he put a paragraph about that. He knew they didn't have a lot of time. He put "for any future vending machines a spot must be reserved for vending machines"

Chair Becker said there was the goal of having a wellness machine. Their efforts were halted because they weren't cheap, however, they already had one on campus with Advil and stuff. One step would be to put condoms in the machine and then move it to a more accessible area. This machine is pretty hidden in the first floor by the At One of the KC. The machine is tucked away in a corner and he was confident that not many students would notice that.

Dr. Beattie said it would be rad if they set up a meeting with the president of RHA. That would be great for freshman to have that accessible. That's 35000 potential students.

Senator Paningbatan said for now his goal was to get the bill passed.

Chair Becker said at UC Davis they already have a wellness machine. He had a picture and a quote about their machine from one of the advisors and they say it is population and they have the Day After Pill they wanted to make sure they got a student opinion before doing that.

Dr. Beattie said they could look at making SNFF like SWFF and it was sustainability and wellness initiatives. They could have a director of wellness to work with them.

Speaker Jackson said they had a budget in the exec account

Dr. Beattie said they haven't used all that money in any given year yet.

Chair Becker said thank you for your insight, that's a great idea.

Senator Paningbatan said he had more recent legislation. When the public and transportation presented the problems with the bus, after the meeting he started talking to student. A lot of students use the bus to get on campus and around. He wrote a resolution in support of a mandatory student fee so they can vote. He had mixed feelings because it would put more fees on students, even though it was a great service. People do walk, but the campus is large and it's a service they need to keep.

Senator Lippi said he would work on the wellness machine

Chair Becker said he wanted to put all of them in the loop and have a meeting with the person from UC Davis. She has done presentations before. She is a community health education specialist and works on the student health center and is the leader of a few groups on campus and the director for campus wellness. He will share that with them. Did they want to have a legislation goal for the group? Was a number worth putting out there?

Senator Tool said giving a number might make them scramble, and they already have good ideas that are time sensitive. They should focus on that now.

Chair Becker said if they set the number to 10, he felt like they would push through less quality legislation than stuff that makes an impact. They should have the goal of getting more legislation through

Dr. Beattie said they should focus on one quality piece of legislation to be proud of later

Senator Paningbatan said it would be better to have one great one to leave as your legacy

c. Legislation from the Department of Legislative Affairs

Chair Becker said Intern Lim was unable to make the meeting because she had class, but she had legislation. Read the legislation for grammar mistakes and to see if it was worth putting through.

Senator Paningbatan said to put it bluntly, this bill supported affirmative action.

Chair Becker said especially in the STEM disciplines, which was an area needed for growth, especially with minority populations. He was for this resolution.

Speaker Jackson said this legislation would need a sponsor. They should amend it before it goes on to senate.

Chair Becker said he brought that up. Would they want to amend it to have it read “sponsored by ___” before putting the legislation through

Dr. Beattie said to ask if someone on the committee was willing to sponsor it

Speaker Jackson said before it was passed by the committee, it had to have a cosponsor

Senator Tool said he would sponsor it.

Senator Paningbatan said that since the bill had to do with STEM disciplines, a science major should also sponsor the bill. He would sponsor the bill.

Chair Becker asked for a motion to amend the section in the resolution that states “submitted by intern” to be changed to “sponsored by Senators Tool and Senator Paningbatan on behalf of intern Lauren Lim from the department of legislative affairs”

Seconded by Senator Lippi

Speaker Jackson said the chair should email her with the changes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Senator Becker adjourned the meeting at 12:53 pm.

NOTES.

Unless otherwise marked by an asterisk, all items are action items upon which the Senate may take action. ASUN supports providing equal access to all programs for people with disabilities. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate physically handicapped persons desiring to attend the meeting. Please call the Speaker of the ASUN at (775) 784-6589 in advance so that arrangements may be conveniently made.

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

85th SESSION
2017-2018

S. RES. 85-

To support HOUSE RESOLUTION 2709 OF THE 1ST SESSION (2017) OF THE 115TH
CONGRESS

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

NOVEMBER 12, 2017

SUBMITTED BY INTERN TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

A Resolution

To support HOUSE RESOLUTION 2709 OF THE 1ST SESSION (2017) OF THE 115TH CONGRESS

Whereas, the title of H.R. 2709 reads “To increase the participation of historically underrepresented demographic groups in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and industry.”;

Whereas, “According to the National Academy of Sciences, STEM education at the undergraduate level is vital to developing a workforce that will allow the United States to remain the leader in the 21st century global economy” (HR2709.II.01a);

Whereas, “According to the 2013 American Community Survey Report on disparities in STEM employment, women comprise about half of the United States workforce but only make up 26 percent of STEM workers” (HR2709.II.01a);

Whereas, in this act “the term “minority” means American Indian, Alaskan Native, Black (not of Hispanic origin), Hispanic (including persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, and Central or South American origin), Asian (including underrepresented subgroups), Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander origin subgroup, or other ethnic group underrepresented in science and engineering” (HR2709.II.01e);

Whereas, “The Director of the National Science Foundation shall award grants to eligible entities, on a competitive basis, to enable such eligible entities to carry out the activities described in subsection (d), in order to increase the participation of women and underrepresented minorities in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics” (HR2709.II.b);

Whereas, the University of Nevada’s vision is “to be a nexus for research and creativity that focuses on vital issues of our time; and to serve as a catalyst for the betterment of our society”;

Whereas, the University of Nevada’s mission “recognizes and embraces the critical importance of diversity in preparing students for global citizenship and is committed to a culture of excellence, inclusion, and accessibility”;

Be it resolved that, The Legislative Affairs Department of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada supports the approval of House Resolution 2709;

Be it further resolved that, a copy of this resolution be sent to ASUN Director Schultz of Legislative Affairs, Senator Catherine Cortez Masto, and Senator Dean Heller.



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