# Committee on Academics

**Senate of the Associated Students 86th Session**

**Minutes for Friday, April 27th, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.**

**3rd Floor Joe Crowley Student Union, President’s Conference Room**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Senator Collins called the meeting for the Committee on Academics to order at 1:02 pm on the 3rd floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union in the President’s Conference Room. Presiding Secretary, Joshua Gilmore.

1. ROLL CALL

Senator Berkley, Senator Collins, Senator Hughes, Senator Sewell, Senator Wilcox, and Senator Wilday were present.

A quorum was present.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

1. MINUTES

There are no minutes to be heard at this time.

1. OLD BUSINESS

There is no old business at this time.

1. NEW BUSINESS
2. Election of a Vice Chair

Senator Collins said the duties of vice chair are filling in when chair is not present. Opening nominations for position of vice chair.

Senator Wilcox nominated Senator Sewell for the Committee on Academics.

Senator Sewell accepted the nomination.

Senator Collins said nominations are closed.

Senator Sewell said most senators probably know about her and academics since the platform she ran on was based solely on academics. She really wants to help with Academics. She would like to be vice chair because while she may not have enough time for the chair position, she has a lot of good ideas for it and insight into it.

Senator Collins moved the meeting into a general discussion about the candidate. Senator Collins said that Senator Sewell is asked to leave the room at this time but is not required to.

*Senator Sewell left the room at 1:05 pm*

Senator Hughes said she is one of the most academically based senators in the 86th session. A major part of being vice chair is filling in and posting agendas. She thinks she’s completely capable of those tasks.

Senator Wilday said that she thinks that she would be good because she has a lot of insight into what academics. She stated she has a better understanding as far as giving ideas due to her involvement in academics which is good for a vice chair.

Senator Hughes said a downside is that the vice chair and chair are both STEM and so is everyone except Senator Wilday. This could possibly be a misrepresentation issue and as we move forward in this session we need to keep this is in mind for equal representation for the College of Business and the College of Liberal Arts.

Senator Wilcox said committees might change based on next semesters scheduling so new senator’s may join, which may balance out the college representation.

Roll call vote. Senator Sewell received all of the votes.

Senator Hughes moved to approve the nomination of Senator Sewell as Vice Chair on the Committee on Academics.

Seconded by Senator Wilcox.

Motion passed; Senator Sewell is now vice chair on the committee on academics.

*Dr. Beattie entered the room at 1:09 pm*

*Senator Sewell entered the room at 1:09 pm*

1. Committee Goals

Senator Collins said she wanted to create a network night for the research labs on campus where they could get together and students could get the feel for research lab and what it’s like. Another was reestablishing the piece of legislation that requires senators to have a minimum of 12 credits to be a senator. That was something previous senator, Senator Cammie Lee was trying to work on but never went through.

Senator Wilcox said one of his goals is to do something similar to Prepare for the Fair and adding multiple times. It’s the only professional development workshop on campus and adding multiple days and times would greatly benefit students. He said that Senator Hughes mentioned that based on the people of the committee, everyone should be represented, not just those of the colleges represented at the meeting.

Senator Wilday said a lot of her goals are specific to the College of Liberal Arts. She said she has a goal for career opportunity outreach. She spoke with Mary T in the Career Center who works hard on providing those events for students. She thinks that those events can be advertised more, especially for liberal arts. Mary T said she wants to target sophomores. She also has an idea about peer advising. Basically this idea is gathering students to help other students with their classes and schedules; this is better due to the fact that the student usually has better insight to professors and study techniques. Another problem is in regards to MyNevada scheduling issues. It’d be a good idea to do student surveys based on specific issues like this, which would allow for student insight into the issue of scheduling. She also has an issue with registration date handling. She believes it should be organized by silver core and how many credits students have fulfilled, what they need next, and some sort of logarithm to determine what class students will likely need. She also wants to create a program for creating labs for social science classes.

Senator Hughes said that she wants to extend peer advising to the College of Engineering. By allowing undergraduate students access to graduate students or seniors who have taken the Fundamentals of Engineering exam as a networking opportunity since the exam is extremely important. Another goal she has is to allow for students to access surveys they fill out for professors at the end of the semester. Since it’s recommended to already fill them out, it would also provide a better resource than rate my professor.

Senator Sewell said that there are a lot of STEM majors that apply for undergraduate research but not a lot of social studies or arts because the don’t have a lot of lab classes, so they’re not sure what they’d be doing. This is something she wants to advertise more. Another thing is fixing labs and lab equipment, rather than just fixing an engineering lab, it could be creating more labs and understanding what students want. There are a lot of degrees that would like a hands on lab. As far as MyNevada, there should be a workshop for all the different services that MyNevada offers. A major concern that every class is required to have a lab section. There are lab sections that are made for 7:30 am to 7 or 8 at night. These sections end up not being taken by students that can take them but instead by students that have to resort to taking them due to everything else filling up. Her last goal is having more local engineering firms have a better platform with the universities. A forum or blog would be useful for students to reach out to these companies. The University could host the forum. There are job opportunities that come in the pipeline but it’s tough to find jobs for students in this field.

Senator Berkley said that his goal is to create something similar to a compilation of internships but for research opportunities. He realized that staff are busy enough teaching classes and often can’t attend a networking event. To be able to put a website for students to access those applications for students to submit for undergraduate research. This could help students understand what opportunities are available to them and help staff see their applicant pool numbers rise. This could benefit multiple colleges.

Senator Collins said this is the list she has so far. The goals she has are networking for research labs, bringing back legislation that requires 12 credits for senators, help with professional development like an online forum, career opportunity outreach, peer advising, fixing MyNevada, a MyNevada workshop, fixing issues regarding early registration and registration dates, fixing research labs, encourage social sciences to submit for research journal, and have access to professor reviews. She’ll get these typed and condensed and will ensure everyone has a copy of it.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

1. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:24 pm.

1. NOTES.

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