

# Committee on Academics

Senate of the Associated Students 86th Session  
Minutes for Friday, May 4th, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Joe Crowley  
Student Union President's Conference Room

## 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Speaker Collins called the Committee on Academics meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. in the President's Conference Room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union.  
Presiding secretary, Joshua Gilmore.

## 2. ROLL CALL

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

Senator Merkley 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 approved at this time.

## 5. OLD BUSINESS

### a. Committee Goals

Senator Collins said that she got everyone's goals for the session and she just wanted to review. She said the goals were research labs, creating networks, building a website for all the information about each lab, possible legislation for increasing the minimum credit requirements for senators, pre professional development, establishing peer advising for more colleges, improve MyNevada, creating a MyNevada workshop, reach out to social sciences more, and create a way for students to access professor evaluations.

Senator Sewell said she wanted to add another goal. She wanted to see if the differential fees and club funding that the college of business and the college of engineering have to pay are still fair and equitable towards clubs that are not in those two colleges.

Senator Collins said she would add that goal to their list of goals.

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Posted at the ASUN Offices in the Joe Crowley Student Union, Frandsen Humanities Building, the Pennington Student Achievement Center, 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 Collins at [senatorcollins@asun.unr.edu](mailto:senatorcollins@asun.unr.edu).



Dr. Beattie said that's interesting because when they pass the differential fees it's because the professors in those departments earn more because they have to compete with the private sector. They were supposed to go to labs.

Senator Sewell said that was her understanding too, but then labs got no increase. That was one of her main platform goals. All that money is going towards funding engineering funds that are going to national conferences.

Senator Hughes said through Chair Collins to Dr. Beattie are those differential fees going towards the ELC?

Dr. Beattie said he didn't know. They might be going through the ELC to other clubs. Kind of like MGC, they collect dues from other clubs and distribute the money. He said he does believe that Senator Sewell is correct, that it creates an inequity. For example, the craft club has to go out and sell cookies to raise their forty percent, while other clubs are just being handed the money. Students are already being taxed for ASUN for money that goes into clubs. Now, engineering students and business students are being double taxed and if they're not in clubs they're not receiving the benefits that their differential tuition that they were sold on as increasing labs. Providing a student with an engineering degree and providing a student with a business degree costs more. So a business professor may start at 100,000 to 120,000 dollars yearly. While an English professor starts out at 60,000 to 70,000 yearly. Because a PhD in English can't walk into the free market and make what a PhD in economy can make. We can probably find some documentation somewhere about the differential fees. We just learned that this money was going directly to clubs and now they don't have to fundraise with the giant chunks of money from ASUN, they don't have to do anything.

Senator Sewell said through the Chair to Dr. Beattie that from her understanding is that clubs still have to fundraise but are also given a certain amount of money if they request it from ELC because they have the differential fees. On top of that they can use the money they are given plus the money they fundraise. They then ask ASUN for the 60% of whatever they have. If you're not in a club you still have to pay all the money which is the double taxing problem.

Dr. Beattie said that it essentially puts the other nine colleges at a deficit. As well as any clubs that come out of those colleges because they're not allowed to charge differential fees.

Senator Hughes asked for their goal if they could write down where differential fees are being allocated to.

Senator Collins said she thinks that is a good idea and that she will add that to the list.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **a. Liaison Positions**

Senator Collins said the academics committee has to serve as liaisons towards many different positions around campus. The positions include the faculty senate and admissions and records. She said she wants to assign one to two of the committee members to a liaison position. She wants members to contact them through email. When emailing be sure to CC Chair Collins. She asks committee members to properly introduce themselves and ask if there is anything they'd want to work with the committee of Academics on anything. Committee members can wait to liaison till over summer in they're available or wait till the next semester. She wants to get into contact them ahead of time before summer starts.

Senator Collins began to read the possible liaison positions for the committee members to volunteer.

### **1. Faculty Senate**

Senator Wilcox asked Senator Collins what Faculty Senate means.

Senator Collins said the position is like the committee but with faculty members.

Dr. Beattie said NSHE believes in shared government so they take different constituents opinions to hand. Outside of the President, there are four governing bodies. One is the Graduate Student Association and it is a council however they behave much like the ASUN Senate. Then, there is the ASUN Senate. The Classified Faculty Senate which are state employees. There are two different types of full-time employees on campus, there's administrative and classified. The faculty set up is made of professors and administrators on campus that do, basically the same thing the ASUN Senate does. It is made up of administrators on campus. For administrative faculty, it's Perry who runs the McNair Scholars Program. Daniel is in the Trio Scholars Program. Perry and Daniel do the same exact sort of things. Last year, President Sanchez of the GSA, put together a new committee that's made up of the ASUN President, ASUN Chief of Staff, ASUN Vice President, a couple of folks from GSA, and a couple of folks from all these committees that get together. Sometimes there's something that's so important, it is going to impact all four governing bodies and they'll work together. So it's important to have someone in touch with faculty senate so you know what's coming up on their agendas. Faculty senate is someone that if you did want to get faculty evaluations made public, that's a governing body you need on your side. Because if they fight it, it is going to be very difficult because they represent all of the professors. I think it's something that has to be handled at the regent's level, actually. That's basically faculty senate, so you'll hear about them, the Graduate Student Association, and the Classified Faculty Senate.

Senator Collins said thank you, Dr. Beattie that helps a lot. The reason why she was establishing these liaison positions is because she doesn't know a lot about them. Reaching out to all these parts of campus will definitely help the Academic Committee as a whole.

Dr. Beattie said he wants to be clear that these liaison positions are different than sitting on committee. President Jackson is responsible for putting people on committees. There might be someone sitting on Faculty Senate that's a student possibly and will attend those meetings.

Senator Collins said thank you for the clarifications.

Senator Collins asked the committee if anyone is interested in Faculty Senate.

Senator Wilcox and Senator Wilday volunteered.

Senator Collins said that Senator Wilcox and Senator Wilday will work on Faculty Senate together.

## **2. Office of Provost**

Senator Collins said right now the provost is Provost Carmen. The provost office consists of the Executive Vice President and the provost himself. They are responsible for services including faculty development, promotion tenure, faculty leaves, academic budgeting, and personal issues in the academic affairs area.

Dr. Beattie asked the committee if they know how the university is split up.

Dr. Beattie said the President Marc Johnson was in charge of everything. He is good for the position because his PhD is in agricultural economy. Therefore, he was an economist. Under him it breaks out into academic affairs, finances, and student services. All of me and my coworkers are under student services. We handled things like enrollment, residential housing and life, the center for student engagement, and the center for cultural diversity. All of which Gerald Marczynski sets under him. Under Shannon Ellis there's Gerald Marczynski and Melisa Choroszy. Melisa Choroszy will come to Senate at some point, she is what we call the registrar, or the Vice President of student enrollment. And then there is academic affairs, anything under the provost. That is anything to do with professors. If we wanted to hire thirty more professors that's under him, if we want to start creating more classes for international students that's all under him. The provost is second in charge on campus. Then there are the finance folks, who look at all the finances for the universities and monitor everyone's budgets to make sure that we are not breaking laws and building buildings properly.

Senator Hughes and Senator Sewell volunteered.

Senator Collins said Senator Hughes and Senator Sewell will be working on the Office of Provost together.

### **3. Office of Administration and Records**

Senator Collins asked if anyone was interested in the Office of Administration and Records.

Senator Hughes volunteered.

Senator Collins said she would sign up Senator Merkley in light of his absence.

Senator Collins asked Senator Hughes if she would like Senator Merkley to join her in the Office of Administration and Records.

Senator Hughes said she wouldn't like to add him involuntarily.

Senator Collins asked Senator Hughes if she could handle the Office of Administration and Records herself or if she'd like to add a second person.

Senator Hughes said she could handle it on her own.

Senator Wilcox said he believes it would be a good idea to have two people in every liaison.

Senator Collins said she added Senator Hughes and Senator Merkley to this liaison.

### **4. Libraries**

Senator Wilday volunteered.

Senator Collins said she would be a part of all liaisons. She said if the committee established meetings, she would come with them to those meetings.

### **5. Help centers/tutoring**

Senator Sewell and Senator Wilcox volunteered.

Senator Collins said she would put Senator Merkley on Libraries with Senator Wilday.

Dr. Beattie said before the committee meets these folks, they should go on the school website and look at what these departments are doing. If meeting with enrollment services for example, ask what's expected with enrollment next year, how are California students doing in compared to Las Vegas students. Do

homework before going in to speak with them and figure out what their agendas look like.

Senator Collins said to be sure to go in there with questions.

**b. S.B. 86- An Act to Award Kelly Doyle for 2017 Faculty of the Year**

Senator Collins said they're actually not going to be discussing this during the meeting because she spoke with speaker Martinez and they changed it from a bill to a resolution. She is going to get it fast-tracked to go straight to senate so they will not be discussing it during this meeting. However, they will be talking about it in senate.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at this time.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 pm.