

86th Session of the Senate of the Associated Students

Minutes for Wednesday, August 15th, 2018 at 5:00 P.M.

The Rotunda, Second Floor of the Mathewson – IGT Knowledge Center

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Speaker Martinez called the Senate meeting to order at 5:02 pm in The Rotunda, 2nd Floor of the Mathewson – IGT Knowledge Center. Presiding secretaries, Andrea Godoy and legislative Clerk Brooke Hansen.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL**

Speaker Martinez and Senators Alvarez, Amaya, Burton, Clemons, Collins, Feil, Grant, Green, Hudson, Hughes, Loveland, McKinney, Rogers, Wilcox, Wilday, and Yeghiayan were present.

Senators Aziz, Mata, and Sewell were absent excused.

A quorum was present.

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- a. The minutes from August 8th, 2018

The minutes from August 8th, 2018 were unavailable at this time.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Director Lensch said the body was going to review legislation to revise the BLF account. That will not be heard tonight. Because of reasons outside of their control, they needed to move the location from outside to indoors. The body will revisit the legislation once they had the new numbers to match. They were going to lower the revenue line and the amount in the account but with the new change, they needed to address new quotes. They will work with Senator Grant to rewrite the legislation to accurately present the new numbers so that it can be presented to Senate.

6. **RECEIPT OF PETITIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE TO THE SENATE AND REFERRAL**

- a. Resignation of Marisa Del Turco, Projects Coordinator for the Department of Legislative Affairs
Speaker Martinez read the letter into the record:

“To Whom it May Concern,

I am submitting my resignation from Projects Coordinator if I receive the nomination as Policy Analyst.

Sincerely,
Marisa Del Turco”

7. **REPORTS OF ASUN OFFICERS**

- a. President of the Associated Students, Hannah Jackson

POSTED ON OR BEFORE 9:00 a.m.

ON THE THIRD WORKING DAY BEFORE THE MEETING

Posted at the ASUN Offices in the Joe Crowley Student Union, Frandsen Humanities Building, The Pennington Student Achievement Center, The 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 Anthony Martinez at 775-784-6589 or Speaker@asun.unr.edu.



- b. Vice President of the Associated Students, Carissa Bradley
- c. Chief Justice, Kate Groesbeck
- d. Chief of Staff, Matthew Dutcher
- e. Director of Clubs and Organizations, Luke Bittar
- f. Director of Event Programming, Austin Lensch
- g. Director of Legislative Affairs, Katie Worrall
- h. Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Arezo Amerzada
- i. Director of Sustainability, Sierra Jickling
- j. Director of Campus and Public Relations, Mapuana Andrade
- k. Director of Campus Wellness, Brennan Jordan
- l. Attorney General, Omar Moore
- m. Speaker of the Senate, Anthony Martinez

ASUN Officer reports were not heard at this time.

8. REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEES

- a. Chair, Committee on Academics- Senator Collins
Senator Collins had no report at this time.
- b. Chair, Committee on Budget and Finance- Senator Grant
Senator Grant said the committee's first meeting will be on August 31st. Steve Dubey will be there to present on the finances of Wolf Shop.

Senator Amaya asked what time.

Senator Grant said 10 am in President's Conference Room.
- c. Chair, Committee on Civic Engagement- Senator Feil
Senator Feil said the committee's first meeting will be on September 7th at 2 pm location to be determined.
- d. Chair, Committee on Government Operations- Senator McKinney
Senator McKinney had no report at this time.
- e. Chair, Committee on Public Affairs- Senator Alvarez
Senator Alvarez said the committee's first scheduled meeting is Friday, August 31st at 12 pm. They will be looking to create a 9/11 memorial that includes first responders. If they wanted to join the meeting, let her know.
- f. Chair, Committee on University Affairs- Senator Mata
- g. Speaker Pro-Tempore- Senator Hughes
Senator Hughes had no report at this time.
- h. Chair, Committee on Oversight- Speaker Martinez
Speaker Martinez said Oversight's first meeting will be the 31st at 5 pm. He will review goals with all the chairs, discuss what they accomplished over summer, and review legislation. The location was to be determined.

9. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no comments or announcements at this time.

10. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK APPOINTMENTS

The following nominations were submitted to the Speaker of the Senate on August 8th, 2018:

- a. Nomination of Marisa Del Turco to the office of Policy Analyst for the Department of Legislative Affairs
- b. Nomination of Sheridan Manfredi to the office of Projects Coordinator for the Department of Legislative Affairs

Senator Burton moved to fast-track agenda items a-b by unanimous consent.
There was no dissent; motion carried.

11. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS OF SENATORS AND ASUN OFFICIALS

The following nominations were submitted to the Speaker of the Senate on August 8th, 2018:

- a. **NOMINATION OF MARISA DEL TURCO TO THE OFFICE OF POLICY ANALYST FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS**

Senator Wilcox moved to approve the nomination of Marisa Del Turco to the Office of Policy Analyst for the Department of Legislative Affairs.

Senator Alvarez seconded.

Director Worrall said: I am thrilled to nominate Marissa Del Turco to the position of Policy Analyst. Marisa has a work ethic and passion for the political process that would have made her fit for any position I could put her in in this department. I knew her perspective and experiences were going to be a valuable asset to ASUN, and her eagerness to learn and grow was the most important in my decision process. Policy analyst was the position she originally applied for and that she had hoped for the most when I interviewed her, which is why I first offered her the opportunity for the position once it became open again. Her experience outside ASUN in both social and political organizations brings a valuable viewpoint to improve the work we are doing. I know how enthusiastic she is to be a part of this department and organization, and that to me is the most important attribute to succeed in all the work we have to accomplish this year. It is important that the policy branch of our department is as unbiased as possible, representing all student views, and credible in their research. I trust Marisa to fully represent every student, and to help us reach out to students we have not included in the past.

Ms. Del Turco thanked the body for being present. She was currently the Projects Coordinator but was now the nominee for Policy Analyst. She wanted this position originally and applied for it. She believed her current and prior work experience will help her in the position. She is working with a law firm and wants to go to law school. She will also intern at the Second Judicial Court during this upcoming semester. Essentially, she will write petitions, does research, assists attorneys and legal assistants, and review documents. She will benefit the position because she has the research aspect and is learning about policy cases within the court. She had a few goals. First was to have ASUN look at all sides before taking actions. She wanted to hear all opinions on issues. It was important for students to know what policies affect them before taking any action. She also wanted to create a way to have students contact ASUN officers, so they can fairly represent all students. Students should feel they are being heard and represented fairly. During the last election for Assembly District 24, only democrats ran meaning that only democrats could vote. This disenfranchised many students that couldn't vote because they were registered as nonpartisan or under a different party. This was something that had been discussed within her team before. She developed these goals because as someone that hadn't been a part of ASUN, she found it difficult to see how ASUN informed students. She felt this was important because students shouldn't feel that ASUN does things without them; they should be one community. Students need to be heard before someone speaks to them. She wanted to table, speak to clubs, use social media, post flyers.

She wanted to reach out to Student Ambassadors, Fraternity and Sorority Life, and politically-based organizations such as the College of Republicans and Young Democrats.

The body moved to questions and answers at this time.

Senator Amaya said Ms. Del Turco mentioned surveys. She asked Ms. Del Turco if the surveys would be online or paper.

Ms. Del Turco said probably online to reach more people; paper surveys are messier and costlier.

Senator Burton asked if she will draft the surveys or reach out to other staff.

Ms. Del Turco said reach out to other staff on campus. She has never written surveys before and would need to talk to multiple people before doing anything.

There were no further questions at this time; the body moved to a vote.
Ms. Del Turco left the room.

Senator Yeghiayan liked that Ms. Del Turco wanted to observe all sides of issues so that students knew they had a voice and could be heard, even if an opinion was not the most popular.

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

Motion carried.

Ms. Del Turco was sworn in as Policy Analyst for the Department of Legislative Affairs.

b. NOMINATION OF SHERIDAN MANFREDI TO THE OFFICE OF PROJECTS COORDINATOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

Senator Wilcox moved to approve the nomination of Sheridan Manfredi to the Office of Projects Coordinator for the Department of Legislative Affairs.

Senator Feil seconded.

Director Worrall said: I am so very excited to nominate Sheridan to the position of Projects Coordinator. Many of you know my vision for the position is much different than it has been carried out in past legislative affairs departments. Leg Affairs is supposed to be the branch that represents students, advocates for them, and informs them, however an extremely important component of outreach has been missing in this process. In order to properly represent students, we need to be talking to them and we need to show them they have a voice and a seat at the table. Sheridan's positivity, approachability, and true genuine passion for students and the political process makes her perfect for this position. When I created my vision for this position, every quality about Sheridan is what I had in mind. I know that when she goes to a club meeting, tables, or just talks to any student on her way to class, that that student is going to feel like ASUN really cares and wants to listen. She has some wonderful ideas on how to fulfill this position, and how to make sure we are living up to our mission this year.

Ms. Manfredi said: Good evening. I am here to express my interest and my firm belief that I am the best candidate for the position of Projects Coordinator. I have always had a passion for helping others and the community as a whole. Recently I have come to the conclusion that the best way for me to positively affect the most people is by getting involved in the policy process. This is not something I can do alone. In order to be successful in this I need a group of individuals who see

this change as possible and are willing to use their voice, and their vote to make it happen. I want to inspire the students of our campus to think this way, and to believe that their opinions are valued, heard, and reflected by the policy our university embodies. As projects coordinator, my main focus would be student outreach. In past years as a student, I have felt there is a divide between ASUN and the student body. Students do not see ASUN as something they are directly a part of and they do not fully understand the scope of ASUN's purpose as an organization: to provide students the services they need to succeed. In order to amend this, it is crucial that students feel we as an organization are approachable. At the end of the day, people are only going to want to engage with us and participate in our activities if each one of us is welcoming and encouraging that participation. I want students to know who represents them, so they know who they can turn to if they have ideas or concerns they need addressed. In order to do this, I would like to hold monthly town hall meetings. The town halls would be composed of representatives from ASUN and any and all students that want to come and give their feedback and opinions about things we are doing well and issues they would like to see addressed. I also envision these meetings as a place where we as ASUN can be create an environment where the students get to know us as people. I want it to be a conversation and an opportunity for the students to get to know what ASUN does, who their Senators are, and how they can be involved in the issues that matter to them. As more people have an understanding, and as we build more relationships with the students we represent, more people will want to be involved in our events and will have the tools to use their voice to make a change just as we all do. As we build this connection with our students, we will spark the interest and engagement we need to inform students on the policy that affects them and how they can get involved to make the changes they would like to see. Holding activities such as active tabling would allow for that interaction between ASUN and the students. The purpose of these events is to be engaging and informational, so we are building those relationships, as well as getting the information out that allows our students to be educated voters and members of the community. The most important aspect of this position to me is giving students the opportunity to feel heard and valued. In order to create projects our students want to engage in, we must first understand the opinions that our students hold. While it is important to acknowledge there is no perfect way to measure people's opinions, social media has proven to be a platform that allows organizations to hear the views of its members through polls. Using these polls, ASUN would gain the ability to get instant feedback and hear the voices of those who are reluctant to offer it to us face to face. By increasing the use of social media to hear student opinions, ASUN can move forward and create events and policy that demonstrates the students are actually being heard and their opinions considered. Our university community is strengthened by the multitude of differing opinions that each of our students hold. It is the university's job to create an environment where these opinions are challenged and stimulated. I see this position as playing an integral role in the development and sharing of all ideas. The role of this department is to remain unbiased and strictly listen to the views of the people we serve. This is not to say I do not hold my own opinion, but I believe the integrity of this position comes from the ability to set opinions aside in the spirit of adequately representing our students. Seeing as we are entering a legislative session, it is especially crucial for our students to be educated and empowered to use their voice to make changes. I want students to see testifying at the legislature as a privilege. I want it to be an event that is not only important but fun. In order to do this, it is imperative students know the issues and are well versed in how they will affect them. The way we are going to get students to care is by showing them the tangible ways it the legislation will impact their lives. A really important tool in doing this is presenting legislation that has already been passed and is now actively affecting them. Real examples will spark a drive to want to make that change happen again. Education is the key to doing this successfully, and that is why I am so passionate about creating events that really inspire and teach students that they are a valued and important member of our campus community and that their voices really can make a change. I know I would be able to bring a positive approach to talking to students and create an environment where they feel heard and validated. To create

tangible change, it is essential to have inspired and passionate people working on projects that matter to them. If I am given the chance, I would work relentlessly to bring this passion and affect positive change to the constituents of the University of Nevada, and our surrounding community. Thank you for your time and consideration.

The body moved to questions and answers at this time.

Senator Burton said Ms. Manfredi mentioned town hall meetings. He asked if she had any ideas for topics.

Ms. Manfredi said she wanted the town halls to be run by students that show up and for students to have a chance to address ASUN. This would start conversations so that it wouldn't be so intimidating to come to them.

Senator Burton asked Ms. Manfredi what resources she will utilize to engage students to come to meetings and how she will inform them about ASUN.

Ms. Manfredi said social media was powerful. Also, them talking about it; word-of-mouth and being approachable is important. Talking during class and spreading information via word-of-mouth so students know ASUN cares and wants to talk to people.

Senator Feil said a duty in the SAS for the Projects Coordinator was to organize voter registration drives. She asked Ms. Manfredi if she planned on doing those.

Ms. Manfredi said she will hold them. An idea she had to draw people to the table was to have plants or candy or pizza. Something that would start the conversation and then using that to lead into asking students if they are registered.

Senator Yeghiayan asked if she planned on reaching out to housing as well to get freshmen involved.

Ms. Manfredi said yes; she planned on reaching out to all student clubs and orgs and any deans, basically anyone that will listen.

Senator Burton said she mentioned polls. He knew the Joe did a survey but got a very low response rate. He asked Ms. Manfredi what she would do to ensure she gets a comfortable response rate to make decisions on.

Ms. Manfredi said by gearing polls on social media. Students are on social media almost 24/7; students will be more inclined to take a poll if it only takes a click. A bigger social media presence will help students be more inclined to give their opinion.

There were no further questions at this time; the body moved to discussion.
Ms. Manfredi left the room.

Senator Feil liked Ms. Manfredi's excitement and felt she will be good for the position.

Senator Hughes said town halls would be good. She has heard students complain about things, but they won't come to Senate because it was intimidating. A different platform will be extraordinary.

Senator Burton said based on Ms. Manfredi's responses, he felt she will run into some bumps but will be able to embrace failure and overcome it.

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

Motion carried.

Ms. Manfredi was sworn in as the Projects Coordinator for the Department of Legislative Affairs.

12. VETO MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

There were no veto messages at this time.

13. CONSENT AGENDA

There was no legislation filed for the Consent Agenda.

14. FIRST READING OF LEGISLATION

The following bills and resolutions received their first reading and were considered under item 16 of this agenda:

- a. S.B. 86 – An Act to Make Revisions Within the Biggest Little Festival Account
Not heard.
- b. S.B. 86 – An Act to Increase the Number of Event Programming Interns

15. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK LEGISLATION

- a. S.B. 86 – An Act to Make Revisions Within the Biggest Little Festival Account
- b. S.B. 86 – An Act to Increase the Number of Event Programming Interns

Senator Wilcox moved to fast-track agenda item b by unanimous consent.

There was no dissent; motion carried.

16. REFERRALS TO COMMITTEE

There was no legislation to be considered for referral at this time.

17. SECOND READING OF LEGISLATION

The following bills and resolutions will receive their second reading and may be considered:

- a. S.B. 86 – An Act to Make Revisions Within the Biggest Little Festival Account
The legislation was not heard at this time.
- b. S.B. 86 – An Act to Increase the Number of Event Programming Interns
Senator Burton moved to approve S.B. 86 – An Act to Increase the Number of Event Programming Interns.
Senator Wilcox seconded.

Assistant Director Lew said: We are normally allowed 8 interns but wanted to have 10. My first point was that programming was hard. Programming is in charge of planning/hosting many high attendance and high impact events that (more often than not) require physical labor. In these instances, we need as many hands on deck as possible. We frequently have to ask for volunteers from other departments because we are short staffed. The retention rate for the internship is not particularly impressive, as we typically lose many interns throughout the year. In 2016 we began the year with 8 interns, ended Welcome Week with 7, and ended the fall semester with 5. In 2017, we began the year with 8 interns, ended Welcome Week with 6, ended fall semester with 5, and ended the year with only 3. One of my goals when appointed was to increase the amount of

students who complete the internship to its entirety, so this would be the first step in accomplishing that.

Senator Burton asked if there were plans to increase the budget for more interns.

Assistant Director Lew said they are only adding two more interns.

Speaker Martinez said the interns are not paid.

Senator Loveland asked why they wanted to increase it to 10 rather than 12.

Assistant Director Lew said the big reason for is that is because the Department only has 8 programmers who often times are still learning their own roles. Having to learn your role and teach one intern.

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

Motion carried.

18. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

a. Senate Committee Changes

Senate committee changes were not heard at this time.

b. Senator Reports

Senate reports were not heard at this time.

19. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no comments or announcements at this time.

20. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chief of Staff Dutcher said please be in Pack Place tomorrow at 8 am for retreat.

President Jackson asked the body give a round of applause for Chief of Staff Dutcher. They will have an awesome time.

Speaker Martinez said the next Senate meeting is the 22nd. That meeting is next week and it will be in the Senate Chambers. They couldn't have senate in there tonight because the chambers are being remodeled with new carpets and chairs. He will not be at Senate. Senator Hughes will lead the meeting; let her know if they had questions. They will also do committee changes at next week's meeting. If they had any questions about committees, they can email him or Secretary Godoy.

Dr. Beattie said for retreat, the 4-h camp had actual beds. They can bring blankets or sleeping bags. He encouraged them to get a good night's rest and to show up bright eyed and with a great attitude. Retreat can be long and it gets tiring quickly but they will learn a lot and it will be fun. He encouraged them to not hang out with Senators over weekend. Part of retreat is to get to know others in offices. Senate gets to know Programming well since Programming often asks Senate for help at events but its harder to get to know Legislative Affairs or Judicial Council. Get to know other people from other departments, don't just clique up with other senators.

Senator Feil asked if next week's meeting will be at 5:00 pm or 5:30 pm.

Speaker Martinez said 5:00 pm. It was 5 pm in during the summer and 5:30 pm during the school year. h will send out an email to remind them.

President Jackson asked the body wear wolfpack gear tomorrow and said be sure to bring a notepad or somewhere to take notes and writing utensils.

Director Lensch said as they know, Welcome Week was coming up fast. They will need help at the events, especially the pancake feed. That will be on the first Wednesday of year from 10 pm – 1 am on the quad. They need help flipping pancakes and it was a great time to get to know their constituents. He asked the body pay attention to the Facebook page and he will ask for volunteers next week. Senator Amaya asked if they can sign up on GivePulse.

Assistant director Lensch said yes; he can share the link too.

Dr. Beattie said if they hadn't taken the strengthsfinder, be sure to take it.

21. ADJOURNMENT

Speaker Martinez adjourned the meeting at 5:39 pm.