

Committee on University Affairs

Senate of the Associated Students 86th Session
Minutes for Friday, October 12, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.
President's Conference Room, 3rd Floor JCSU

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Senator Mata called the Committee on University Affairs meeting to order on at 9:06 am in the President's Conference Room in the Joe Crowley Student Union. Presiding Secretary, Frida Urena.

2. ROLL CALL

All Senators were present.

A quorum is present

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

a. **Kathlin L. Ray, Dean of Libraries**

Senator Mata introduced Kathlin L. Ray, Dean of Libraries, to discuss upcoming things happening in the Knowledge Center.

Ray said maybe ASUN can spread the word on some Knowledge Center (KC) events since they have finally gotten large enough. There were a lot of budget cuts in 2008-2011 that affected the KC and it has taken them some time to get back on their feet. They have events to help get students in the KC and feel comfortable. A lot of students do not go in since it can be difficult to navigate. A lot of lower levels events are in September when more students are new. The KC also co-sponsors the Reno Mini Maker Fair since there is a digital maker's space in the first level and it is good to team up with people in the community.

Ray said that the KC got new table toppers to promote events and things in the KC. She added that the KC can be most effective for those doing research. The KC has a whole research team assigned for every college and they are also reaching out for faculty help. Students can come in and go on the library webpage, chat, and can get research help when assignments are vague. Students can also get one on one consultations and work on assignments since they get complex as the years go on. New faculty can get help at the KC too. They can get help for Canvas/Web Campus, so it can be the most efficient for the students and faculty.

Senator Clemons asked if the library is public to the community.

Ray said it is not completely a public library. Databases are paid with student money, so the public cannot use them. Some members of the public can come in and study and see the book, but cannot check it out. However, they can get a community borrowers card for \$25. The public cannot use the computers as well since they are paid for with student fee money.

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.

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



Senator Mata asked if everyone that helped with research had degrees.

Ray said that they have degrees in informational library sciences. They may or may not have degrees in the particular field, but have been trained to look up the information.

Senator Green asked if there were any other ways to promote events.

Ray said the KC primarily promotes events on Facebook. They are working on their Instagram account and monitors and posters in the building also help promote. The KC is not great at social media because there are not a lot of students that help with that. Ray also said she was willing to take suggestions.

Senator Clemons suggested tabling because people are forced to look at you.

Senator Yeghiayan said the KC did a decent job of promoting.

Ray said the turnout was around 80 people at their last trivia night. She also said the KC was willing to cosponsor other events with different organizations to get more people to come.

Senator Clemons asked if there were stigmas about the library.

Ray said the big stigma that they cannot get past was that libraries are built on systems of organization that is confusing. The KC is organized like the Library of Congress, not the Dewey Decimal System and people always get lost. The situation is going to become increasingly difficult since library organization is not often taught in school.

Ray continued with although the KC has so many eBooks, students still like physical books. The KC is also popular compared to older libraries in the United States. Other libraries have asked for help on how to get students to come in. Students from little towns often feel unsure and embarrassed to ask about how to use the library since it is such a big operation.

Senator Clemons asked if people can go up to the help desk and get help finding a book.

Ray said that students can pin the book on the library website and that can help people find the physical location of the book.

Senator Clemons asked if the information was available somewhere like a pamphlet.

Ray asked if that would be helpful.

Everyone agreed.

Senator Mata asked about keeping the library open later.

Ray said they have been working on that for years. University libraries are open later in different areas. They have been pushing to close at midnight/1 am since a lot of students would go in at that time. However, later times do not mean that students want to work that late. The KC also cannot hire people that late since most people would not want to work. She discussed partnering with ASUN to do some experiments. She has found that students don't want computers, but want tables. Ray also said that they do not card people, so it is not only students. Everyone would be pushed out after midnight. Only the second floor of the KC stays open because of the mix of people. They were looking into having ASUN pay for security guards to keep the area safe.

Senator Green asked if all they would need is security.

Ray said yes and they have two potential security companies. They need reliable companies and not students. Security would be \$40 per hour and it would still be a pilot program. When they first experimented, they did not get a lot of people.

Senator Clemons asked if the security would be from a private company.

Ray said yes.

James Beatty said ASUN uses other companies because UNR PD is expensive.

Senator Clemons said more people would go towards midterms and finals.

Ray said she spoke to a senator about it. The times could be played with and asked what the minimum shift was for a guard.

Beatty said four hours. He added that if the job was on a regular basis, the company would probably be willing to work out a contract since it is good for the firm.

Ray said the original idea was to keep the KC open for 24 hours, but the idea kept on getting pushed back. She asked what the magic number to keep it open was.

Everyone said 3 am.

Senator Mata said it would be useful towards finals.

Ray said she would like to use costs to stay open another hour. Fridays are busy, but not Saturdays. People want the KC to stay open later on the weekends just in case.

Senator Clemons asked what time does the KC close on Saturdays.

Senators Clemons, Green, and Wilday were willing to help figure out good hours for the KC.

Senator Green said the Committee on Academics could help as well.

Senator Wilday said Senators Sewell and Amaya were liaisons for the library and can help. ASUN has to do outreach and help out. She said she can schedule someone for help.

Ray said the KC is open until nine on the weekends, but it gets extended towards the end of the semester. She said to ask professors for advice too and dismissed herself.

Kathlin L. Ray left at 9:34 am.

4. **MINUTES**

There were no minutes at this time.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. **Update on Liaison Positions**

Senator Mata said they have two weeks to get into contact with their partners as soon as possible because of deadlines. Senator Mata then asked for updates.

Senator Wilday was setting up a meeting with Director Jickling about signage at ASUN events and the cost to have recycling at all events. She would then write a resolution.

Senator Yeghiayan was going to talk to Clubs and Orgs about diversity clubs.

Senator Green said that he and Director Jickling were talking to the Wolf Shop about selling fresh produce. There were other ideas floating around. Steve Dubay talked during Senate about composting and Director Jickling set up a meeting.

Senator Mata asked is the meeting open to anyone in the public

Senator Yeghiayan asked who the contact is for Outreach.

Senator Mata said that previously the position wasn't given to a specific person, can forge the path

Senator Yeghiayan said outreach should be encouraged to other senators.

Senator Wilday offered her help on how to develop outreach and come up with it.

Senator Mata said that the point of bringing people in like Kathy Ray was so that they could find people and departments that need help.

Senator Clemons said he is working on big projects like trying to implement flag poles by the Knowledge Center that would represent every student's country. When people come, they can see that UNR is inclusive. Senator Clemons also said that he is trying to have the university switch solar panels. If they work with Tesla, that means more business for the company. He said he needs to get everything set up.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. **Campus Safety Walk**

Senator Mata said good job and they got a lot done. They need to thank the committees and facilities because they did a lot more than they thought.

Senator Wilday offered to write thank you notes and bring them in next week so everyone can sign.

Senator Green talked about the safety walk and how he is writing a resolution to get lights on Sierra St since it is really dark.

Senator Clemons asked what are they going to do if the owner of the property doesn't want them.

Senator Green said it would be 20,000 students against them.

Senator Mata said they will send out a mass email since the area gets scary at night.

Senator Yeghiayan said it would be a Public Affairs issue since it is a city thing. They should get in contact with the campus safety director.

Senator Clemons said the safer the crosswalk, more students would want to live there and parents would like it more.

Senator Yeghiayan said she is working on a community piano project. They will be public pianos that will represent arts and culture. She will need faculty leaders and artists to represent those projects. She also needs to get the piano.

Senator Wilday said she knows artists and a person who plays piano. She can round up students and have a meeting.

Senator Yeghiayan said that the first piano is going to be student based and the second piano will be based around the Reno Arch and the university.

Senator Mata said the Sagebrush published articles about the investigations about how a lot of buildings do not meet disability standards. Senator Mata will talk to the DRC.

Senator Clemons said Senator Wilday wanted to help at the DRC table and Senator Yeghiayan can help set up.

Senator Yeghiayan said she can get stuff going.

Senator Mata said they would get things going on DRC and bring it up at Senate. They want to make sure students are being heard and issues are not being brushed under the table.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at this time.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Senator Mata adjourned the meeting at 9:48 am.