

Committee on Academics

Senate of the Associated Students 86th Session
Minutes for Friday, November 2nd, 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 Committee on Academics meeting to order at 1:01 pm in the President's Conference Room, Third Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union. Presiding Secretary, Dominique Hernandez.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Senator Collins, Ahmed, Hudson, Lemus, Wilcox, Hughes were present.

Senator Amaya and Wilday were absent excused.

Senator Sewell was tardy excused.

A quorum was present.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at this time.

4. **MINUTES**

- a. **The minutes from October 12th, 2018.**
- b. **The minutes from October 19th, 2018.**

There were no minutes available at this time.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. **Committee Senator Updates**

Senator Sewell entered at 1:02 pm

Senator Collins asked if anyone had an updates in particular they wanted to share. She knew everyone had an assigned projects for a while and she hadn't heard a lot back.

Senator Ahmed said for the research stuff, only a few Senators had sent him anything.

Senator Collins said as far as getting responses from the Senators, maybe in the next two days he should send a follow up email. Senator Sewell, everyone was just updating on the projects they were working on. She had a few updates regarding the free printing. It had been very confusing and she learned the hard way you can't start from the top, you have to start at the bottom like Dr. Beattie said. They were making progress. Tina Hill from the university wide IT, had a phone conference with the entire IT department with the owner of the free printing company. They basically talked about the questions they had regarding

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security and accessibility if it were to be implemented on campus. They had a few more questions to ask him so once they got a response for those questions, Tina was going to write a whole summary and send it out. Dr. Beattie received a sample contract from the company and sent it to Steve Smith to review it. Once that was done being reviewed then they'd hopefully set up a meeting and go from there. That was all regarding the free printing. Just recently before the meeting, another company in Chicago called her. Well, he actually contacted the Chief of Staff first and asked him if he was willing to take on the project and he said to send it to her because it was more in their field. Basically what it was, was a company that did speed reading workshops. They went to universities like Columbia and Stanford. They did things for NASA before too. So they did a lot with big companies and seemed to be pretty successful. The guy's name was Bill Novak. He called her and they had a short phone conference and he said in the past UNR had a speed reading workshop where students were able to read quicker but also comprehend material quicker. Their company did specific things like reading things like textbooks, case studies, or journals. But, they could also do more specific things for graduate students. He wanted to talk to her because some of the students that went to that workshop at university expressed interest in bringing it back and doing recurring workshops. The University of Las Vegas, Nevada actually did this program as well and they did it monthly. She would email the committee the details because there were a lot. She told him that it seemed like a pretty cool project and the Chief of Staff seemed interested in it as well but he was not as knowledgeable in that field so he sent it to her. She thought it was worth looking into. Obviously though, it was not going to be free so that was also a point of concern. She would send out all the material he sent to her for the committee to look over as well. Then they could bring it back up in the next meeting. But, they did want to try to set up a workshop either at the end of that semester or the beginning of next semester so it was a little time sensitive.

Senator Hudson asked if this was directed towards ASUN or the student body as a whole.

Senator Collins said the student body as a whole. He just contacted ASUN because the way they usually implemented these workshops in the past was going through student government. That was why he contacted her.

Senator Hudson asked if they just put on the event then.

Senator Collins said yeah. Basically, he said her responsibility, if we chose to put on the event, would be to reserve a classroom or space depending on how many students wanted to do it. She knew at UCLA, they had about 500 students attend. So, they had multiple classrooms all across the university reserved. She would send out more information regarding money and things like that.

Senator Hudson asked if they university paid for it or if ASUN paid for it.

Senator Collins said he told her multiple ways it could be funded because a lot of different institutions did it a lot of different ways. For example, our student government could pay for it. There was a quote in there for a 4 hour session monthly would be around \$3,000 or 90 minute sessions were cheaper. She couldn't really remember but the students could also pay

for it and they'd give the students a discount. The other one was something like funding raising but she was kind of confused on that.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. **Discussion on S. Res. 86 A Resolution Not in Support of the Proposed Latin Honors Criteria**

Senator Collins said that piece of legislation was not perfect. She kind of rushed it because she wanted to get it on the agenda. They were able to make amendments though. For starters, the title sounded really awkward.

Dr. Beattie left the room at 1:09 pm

Senator Collins said she spoke with Senator Hughes because Dr. Beattie gave them some suggestions on what was in it and how to amend it. But they didn't really have concrete sentences written out for them at the time. What they'd do now was discuss and brainstorm ideas then if it passed and went through to Senate, then they'd make the amendments there to have them fully written out.

Senator Hudson asked if it was not in support of the original Latin honors, were they suggesting new things they wanted.

Senator Collins said that was why the wording was really confusing.

Dr. Beattie entered the room at 1:10 pm

Senator Collins said it was not in support of the newly proposed one. She shouldn't even have used "not in support," Dr. Beattie gave them the example of saying opposed to. Dr. Beattie gave her an example of one from the 82nd session. They used different language which made a lot more sense. So when they made the amendment it would say something like "a resolution in opposition to the newly proposed Latin honors criteria."

Senator Hughes moved to amend the title of Senate Resolution 86 A Resolution Not in Support of the Proposed Latin Honors Criteria to say Senate Resolution 86 A Resolution in Opposition of the Proposed Latin Honors Criteria.

Senator Hudson seconded.

The committee moved into a vote.

Motion carried

Senator Collins said now that the title was cleared up, they could pass around notes Dr. Beattie made about anything regarding wording.

Senator Wilcox asked if this was basically a resolution stating that ASUN was not in support of the proposed system and they were just trying to send it to the Provost.

Senator Collins said basically it was clear that a lot of them were not in support of the proposed criteria that Provost Carmen had presented to them. If this passed, it would just say the association as a whole was in opposition to the criteria that they proposed.

Then if it did pass, she was thinking of drafting a formal email saying why they did not pass it. Of course Provost Carmen would see the legislation. She did not want to just be in opposition to it and then that be it. She was thinking about doing suggestions as to what other things could be done or why it should stay the same. Just so it didn't seem like they were just saying they didn't like it.

Senator Sewell said to add onto that, Dr. Beattie suggested that if they wanted to, if they had a specific suggestion they all collaborated on and agreed with then they could attach that to the legislation. That way it would say they were in opposition of their criteria but they would see their suggestions as well.

Dr. Beattie said if they were going to attach it onto the agenda for Senate, Speaker Martinez posted it today so they'd have to push it back a week. Because he could not add more onto the agenda since he already posted it. Also to remember, the 12th was Veterans Day so it was a holiday. It was very careful around that time for agenda posting because of Veterans Day and thanksgiving.

Senator Hughes asked Dr. Beattie if it was agenzized for next week.

Dr. Beattie said yes Speaker Martinez had it on for Senate next week.

Senator Hughes asked Dr. Beattie if it was for town hall.

Dr. Beattie said yes he had three pieces of legislation. He had town hall, budget moving, and one other piece of legislation.

Senator Wilcox asked with the remarks that Dr. Beattie made, were they looking to make some of these actual changes. Was that what the meeting was for?

Senator Collins said they hadn't had the chance to sit down and write actual sentences that would fix some of the wording in this. Senator Hughes and her thought that at this time they'd just discuss what they needed to change and over the weekend they'd actually write up what they wanted to amend. If it went to Senate they'd make the amendments during Senate since they'd have it written out. Unless the committee wanted to write them during the meeting.

Senator Wilcox thanked Senator Collins for the clarification.

Senator Collins asked if everyone was able to see the suggestion Dr. Beattie made. They were just little notes. Page 2 line items 21 and 22 at the very bottom said if the university were to adopt the newly proposed criteria the semester credit requirements and transfer student credit requirements would be eliminated. Dr. Beattie asked why we would need this and she thought the same. That sounded like a good thing for the new criteria since they were removing one of the requirements to make it easier for students to get it. It kind of went against what they were saying there. They might strike that if everyone felt that was necessary.

Senator Ahmed asked if Page 2 line item 12 was an error.

Senator Collins asked him to read it to her.

Senator Ahmed said it just said 6% of students graduate with Latin honors.

Senator Collins said yes probably because they had it on a word document so they could all work on it. She couldn't convert the word document to have the numbers on the side so she had to copy and paste it.

Senator Wilcox asked if they were to make amendments now, would it be amended by the time it went to Senate.

Dr. Beattie said if they made amendments now they could bring the document and amend by substitution. So it would amend all the amendments.

Senator Collins asked if they could make further amendment they might not have made during the meeting.

Dr. Beattie said yes it would be the first amendment and that would be the working document. Then they would amend by substitutions then amend it by substitution. He didn't know how time sensitive it was. But if they pushed it out a week then everyone could find one piece of data they thought supported it. That was up to her and how she wanted to do it. But the one he sent her that Nick Andrew wrote was really well written. Nick was an analyzer which was his natural nature. He was a data guy and he was a scientist in medical school. She was sending it to a scientist because the Provost was a scientist so the more data she had the stronger her argument.

Senator Collins said she received a response back from UNLV because they had a system that they thought could be good to propose.

Senator Collins asked if Dr. Beattie could send that to her again because she never got it.

Senator Collins said she agreed with Dr. Beattie that it might be good to push it back. Especially since they had a long meeting coming up. So then from there they'd open it back up into a word document so they could add and remove things. She'd let speaker Martinez know they'd push it back another week.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at this time.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

The Committee on Academics meeting was adjourned at 1:20 pm.