

86th Session of the Senate of the Associated Students

Agenda for Wednesday, November 14th, 2018 at 5:30 P.M.

Rita Laden Senate Chambers, Third Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER***

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE***

3. **ROLL CALL***

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- a. The Senate will consider the approval of the minutes from **September 12th, 2018**. The Senate will discuss the minutes of **September 12th, 2018** and may choose to amend or edit the minutes. Upon conclusion of the discussion, the Senate may choose to approve the minutes.
- b. The Senate will consider the approval of the minutes from **September 19th, 2018**. The Senate will discuss the minutes of **September 19th, 2018** and may choose to amend or edit the minutes. Upon conclusion of the discussion, the Senate may choose to approve the minutes.
- c. The Senate will consider the approval of the minutes from **September 26th, 2018**. The Senate will discuss the minutes of **September 26th, 2018** and may choose to amend or edit the minutes. Upon conclusion of the discussion, the Senate may choose to approve the minutes.
- d. The Senate will consider the approval of the minutes from **October 3rd, 2018**. The Senate will discuss the minutes of **October 3rd, 2018** and may choose to amend or edit the minutes. Upon conclusion of the discussion, the Senate may choose to approve the minutes.
- e. The Senate will consider the approval of the minutes from **October 10th, 2018**. The Senate will discuss the minutes of **October 10th, 2018** and may choose to amend or edit the minutes. Upon conclusion of the discussion, the Senate may choose to approve the minutes.
- f. The Senate will consider the approval of the minutes from **October 17th, 2018**. The Senate will discuss the minutes of **October 17th, 2018** and may choose to amend or edit the minutes. Upon conclusion of the discussion, the Senate may choose to approve the minutes.
- g. The Senate will consider the approval of the minutes from **October 24th, 2018**. The Senate will discuss the minutes of **October 24th, 2018** and may choose to amend or edit the minutes. Upon conclusion of the discussion, the Senate may choose to approve the minutes.
- h. The Senate will consider the approval of the minutes from **November 7th, 2018**. The Senate will discuss the minutes of **October 7th, 2018** and may choose to amend or edit the minutes. Upon conclusion of the discussion, the Senate may choose to approve the minutes.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT***

Items heard under public comment may be for items either on or off the agenda. Action may not be taken on items raised under public comment. The Speaker may elect to take public comment on action items on this agenda. The Speaker may impose reasonable limits on the length members of the public may speak.

- a. The Nevada Alumni Association, The Young Alumni
- b. Adam Garcia, Chief of Police

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.



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

- a. Resignation of April Wilday, Senator for the College of Liberal Arts

7. REPORTS OF ASUN OFFICERS

The Speaker shall recognize any senior officer of the Association, including the Secretary, to offer a report on his or her official activities since the previous meeting and make any summary announcements he or she deems necessary for no longer than five minutes.

- a. President of the Associated Students, Hannah Jackson
- 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

8. REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEES*

The Speaker shall recognize the chairperson of each standing committee, in alphabetical order, and then each special committee, in alphabetical order, to report for no longer than five minutes on the committee's activities since the previous meeting

- a. Chair, Committee on Academics- Senator Collins
- b. Chair, Committee on Budget and Finance- Senator Grant
- c. Chair, Committee on Civic Engagement- Senator Feil
- d. Chair, Committee on Government Operations- Senator McKinney
- e. Chair, Committee on Public Affairs- Senator Alvarez
- f. Chair, Committee on University Affairs- Senator Mata
- g. Speaker Pro-Tempore- Senator Hughes
- h. Chair, Committee on Oversight- Speaker Martinez

9. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS*

The Speaker shall recognize in turn senators requesting the floor for a period not to exceed two minutes. The total time for Comments and Announcements before the first reading of legislation shall not exceed fifteen minutes.

10. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK APPOINTMENTS

The motion to fast track a resolution or appointment confirmation shall be in order if recommended by the committee of relevant jurisdiction.

There are no items to be heard under this agenda item at this time.

11. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS OF SENATORS AND ASUN OFFICIALS

The Senate will consider the following nominations for Association office. When the Senate has concluded its deliberations, the Senate may approve the nomination, reject the nomination, or take no action upon the nomination.

There are no items to be heard under this agenda item at this time.

12. VETO MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Senate may reconsider acts vetoed by the ASUN President if they are returned by the President with his objections.

There are no veto messages at this time.

13. CONSENT AGENDA

The Speaker shall sequentially proceed through such acts of legislation that have been previously been placed on the consent agenda. Such acts shall be considered adopted by consent, unless a single senator rises in objection thereto. All acts so objected are immediately placed on the end of the agenda for second reading.

There was no legislation filed for the Consent Agenda.

14. FIRST READING OF LEGISLATION

The following bills and resolutions will receive their first reading and may be considered under item 16 of this agenda:

- a. **S.B. 86** – A Resolution in Opposition to the Proposed Latin Honors Criteria

15. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK LEGISLATION

A senator may move that legislation under item 16 of this agenda be considered at this meeting. Such a motion shall only be in order provided that a one-day notice has been given to the speaker. The motion shall be decided without debate and shall require the consent of a two-thirds majority of the senate.

There is no legislation to be read now.

There are no items to be heard under this agenda item at this time.

16. REFERRALS TO COMMITTEE

The Speaker shall refer all legislation read the first time and not fast tracked to committee.

There is 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:

- b. **S.B. 86** – A Resolution in Opposition to the Proposed Latin Honors Criteria

18. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

a. Senate Committee Changes

The Senate may make changes to committee assignments by resolution

b. Senator Reports

The Senate will share progress they have made in ASUN-related activities that they have been working on.

19. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS*

The Speaker shall recognize in turn Senators requesting the floor for a period not to exceed two minutes.

20. PUBLIC COMMENT*

The Speaker may elect to take public comment on items on or off this agenda. The Speaker may impose reasonable limits on the length members of the public may speak.

21. ADJOURNMENT

Notes:

Unless otherwise marked by an asterisk, all agenda items are action items upon which the Senate may take action.

Action items may be taken out of the order to be presented at the discretion of the Chair.

ASUN supports providing equal access to all programs for people with disabilities. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide accommodations to people with disabilities attending the meeting. Please call ASUN at (775) 784-6589 as soon as possible to arrange for appropriate accommodation.

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

86th SESSION
2018-2019

S. Res. 86-

A Resolution In Opposition to the Proposed Latin Honors Criteria

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

NOVEMBER 5TH, 2018

SUBMITTED BY SENATOR COLLINS
COSPONSORED BY SENATOR LEMUS, SENATOR SEWELL, AND SENATOR HUGHES

A Resolution In Opposition to the Proposed Latin Honors Criteria

1 *Whereas*, the newly proposed Latin Honors criteria would change the current criteria

2 of varying GPA ranges across each college to be uniform across all college as follows:

3 Summa Cum Laude: GPA range 4 – 3.95

4 Magna Cum Laude: GPA range 3.949 – 3.85

5 Cum Laude: GPA Range 3.849 – 3.75

6 Whereas, the criteria for students to graduate with Latin Honors currently set in place

7 consists of the following requirements:

8 -At least 90 semester credits earned in courses graded A-F

9 -At least 60 semester credits earned in residence at UNR in courses graded A-F

1 -If a transfer student, satisfaction of the Latin Honor GPA requirement at this
2 university and in the combined, transfer university GPA.

3 Whereas, Latin honors awards are intended to be reserved for students who have
4 excelled academically. Removing the credit and transfer student specific requirements
5 would devalue the awards as there would be less fulfillments necessary for students to be
6 eligible. Multiple other institutions such as Stanford University, the University of
7 California, Los Angeles, and the University of Oregon all include credit specific
8 requirements, aside from their individual GPA requirements, to uphold competitive
9 criteria.

10 *Whereas*, the university's graduating class of May 2018 had 6.54% of all its graduates
11 receive a Latin honors distinction; whereas if the new criteria were to be applied to this
12 graduating class, 13.66% of all its graduates would have received a Latin honors
13 distinction. Although the newly proposed criteria favor a higher percentage of students
14 awarded with a Latin Honors distinction overall, it would create large discrepancies
15 between separate colleges. Applying the newly proposed criteria to the graduating class of
16 May 2018, for example, would result in 28.8% of the Health Science graduates receiving
17 a Latin honors distinction, whereas only 2.99% of the Interdisciplinary Program graduates
18 and 6.13% of the College of Business graduates would receive a Latin honors distinction.

19 *Whereas*, these discrepancies between colleges are unfair to students, and create an
20 imbalance in the percentages of students receiving a Latin honors award within specific
21 colleges. For example, of the College of Business students who graduated in May of 2018
22 with a "Magna Cum Laude" distinction, 48% of them would not have received the award
23 if the new criteria were to have been applied. (Current Magna Cum Laude GPA range for

1 the College of Business: 3.386-3.691, Proposed Magna Cum Laude GPA range: 3.949-
2 3.85).

3 *Whereas*, the May 2018 graduating class only had two Interdisciplinary program
4 students who received a Latin honors distinction, and the number would still remain
5 constant if the newly proposed criteria were to be applied to the same graduating class,
6 which would not solve the issue of percentage imbalances among each college.

7 *Whereas*, there are alternative proposals to improve the current Latin honors system,
8 such as a percentile ranking system within each college, which would eliminate the need
9 to revise varying GPA criterion every year. Other institutions, such as the University of
10 Oregon, the University of Utah, and Harvard University, currently use similar systems. For
11 example, within each college the top 10 percent of graduates receive cum laude, the top 5
12 percent of graduates receive magna cum laude and the top 2 percent of graduates receive
13 summa cum laude.

14 *Be it resolved that*, the Associated Students of the University of Nevada oppose the
15 newly proposed system for Latin Honors GPA requirements.

16 *Be it further resolved that*, a copy of this resolution be sent to Provost Dr. Kevin R.
17 Carman, all University deans, and the President of the University, Marc Johnson.

Dear ASUN Senate,

I am regret to inform you that I must resign from my position as a Senator for the College of Liberal Arts. Due to chronic mental and physical conditions, I am unable to put in the necessary work required for Senate. I recently registered with the Disability Resource Center, so I'm getting help and learning! Working in ASUN has been one of the best experiences of my life and I am so happy to have done it with all of you. Please never hesitate to reach out to me and best of luck to you in all the amazing things you'll do!

Best,

April Wilday