

# Department of Legislative Affairs

Minutes for Wednesday, November 7, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.  
Room 420, Fourth Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union

## 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Director Worrall called the Department of Legislative Affairs to order at 8:10 pm in room 420 on the Fourth Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union. Presiding secretary, Breanna Czerlanis.

## 2. ROLL CALL

Director Worrall, Assistant Director Komanduri, Projects Director Wolfram, Policy Director Cailles, and Projects Coordinator Manfredi were present.

Policy Analyst Del Turco was tardy excused.

A quorum was present.

*Policy Analyst Del Turco entered at 8:11 pm.*

## 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

## 4. MINUTES

There were no minutes to approve at the time.

Breanna Czerlanis said she brought the minutes from September 4, 2018, September 18, 2018, and September 25, 2018 to be approved.

Director Worrall said she did not know if they could approve them, but they will.

Policy Director Cailles motioned to approve the minutes from September 4, 2018, September 18, 2018, and September 25, 2018 by unanimous consent.

Projects Coordinator Manfredi seconded.

There was no dissent; motion carries.

## 5. REPORTS

### a. **Report of the Director, Katie Worrall**

Director Worrall said she would like to go through the reports of the Department members before she gives her report. She said Assistant Director Komanduri, Projects Coordinator Manfredi and herself attended the Student Town Hall Senate meeting that was held earlier that night. She said she thought it was a very heavy and sad meeting. Director Worrall said she would like to think of ways the Department of Legislative Affairs can address the things brought up by the students at the Town Hall. She said a lot of the people spoke said they wanted to see ASUN do something. She said the Town Hall will be on her mind and she



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 Director Worrall at [directorlegislativeaffairs@asun.unr.edu](mailto:directorlegislativeaffairs@asun.unr.edu).

will think of how they can digest what was said at the meeting. Assistant Director Komanduri has been meeting with people to set up an event with an artist who creates activist pieces. She said it could be a weeklong free speech event located on the third floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union. Director Worrall said it would show them how students expressive themselves socially or politically and they would be able to highlights students' voices. She said they can do the event in the spring or possibly in the remainder of the fall semester. She asked what they thought about the event.

Policy Director Cailles said sexual harassment has been discussed more in society. He said legislation has not occurred since October of 2017. He said they could meet with legislatures to discuss policy for sexual assault because there is room for policies to help.

Assistant Director Komanduri said she did not know until the Town Hall meeting that no one at the University of Nevada, Reno had been expelled for sexual assault. She said there have been many reports and many have been punished, but no one has been expelled. She said she would like to find a way to tackle the issue. Assistant Director Komanduri said she does not know about the policies the university has in place currently. She agreed with the activist art event they were thinking of hosting. She said she can reach out to professors. She said in the Church Fine Arts building the art being displayed is usually political charged. Assistant Director Komanduri thought it would be cool to showcase the art from their event in the Church Fine Arts building.

Policy Analyst Del Turco said she would not mind looking into developing a resolution for the topic of sexual assault. She said she has background knowledge on it not only at the university, but in general. She thought it was not shocking that nothing major happens to the person who committed the assault. She said many people don't know what to do about a sexual assault.

Director Worrall said ASUN Officials were passionate about fixing the problem. She said they can work together with them to try to fix it. She said the crisis call center is not always staffed.

Policy Analyst Del Turco said yes. She asked if she should start looking into it now.

Director Worrall said yes. She told Policy Analyst Del Turco to look into Title IX as well since she has heard some horrible things, they have done to not help a situation.

Policy Director Cailles asked if Director Worrall was referring to the Title IX office at the university.

Director Worrall said yes. She said she is happy the Department members would like to continue with the tabling. She said she does not like having them do something that she cannot do as well. She said if they do not mind, she cannot table this semester. Director Worrall said she is glad they are enjoying tabling and that it is going well. She said what Assistant Director Komanduri said was excellent and that she had mentioned the Committee on Public Affairs. Director Worrall said the Committee on Public Affairs is required to report to the Department of Legislative Affairs. She said they have talked about how the Committee on Public Affairs and the Department of Legislative Affairs can work closer. She said they can take information to the Committee and they can run with it and create ideas for it. She said they should think of some policies and issues since Senators must write a legislation. She said the job of the Department of Legislative Affairs is to

research the policies and issues. She said they should look at all sides of it because they do not want to give them recommendations.

Policy Director Cailles said the Committee on Public Affairs can assist with the resolution for the Reno College Council. He asked if the Committee on Public Affairs meets Fridays at noon.

Director Worrall said yes, they do, but there is no meeting that Friday.

Policy Director Cailles said they could reach out to Senator Alvarez to put the resolution on the agenda.

Director Worrall said the document they created for the Reno College Council is shared with Senator Alvarez. She said Senator Alvarez will be writing the legislation. Director Worrall said she spoke to Senator Alvarez about it and they would like to have the resolution ready by November 12<sup>th</sup>.

Policy Director Cailles said okay.

Director Worrall said she is not sure if she updated them on the Affordable Housing event yet. She said she meet with a lot of people on Thursday who told her they are headed in a good direction with the event. She said the Department will give a presentation on the University's side. Director Worrall said she will reach out to the Department members to help her with the presentation. She said they need to have a well-researched presentation and it should not be one sided. She said they can split up the presentation and all take a piece of it. She said President Jackson and herself have looked into past resolutions that have gone through the ASUN Senate for affordable housing. She said at the event the students will be put into small groups to talk about experiences, their stories, and solutions to give to the University administration or County Commissioners. She said they would like long-term and short-term solutions. She said the event will also have a tenant rights workshop and tabling resources. Director Worrall said a lot of help is needed with the event and they have some time to work on it.

Assistant Director Komanduri said they had talked about food before. She asked if there will be food at the event.

Director Worrall said they did approve the budget for the food last meeting. She asked what food they would be getting.

Projects Director Wolfram said they approved it last Thursday.

Director Worrall said yes. She said they can figure out what food to get. She said the Department members can come to the meeting tomorrow in the Center for Student Engagement at noon to discuss the event. She said President Jackson is meeting with Regent Geddes and other to discuss the student regent Bill Draft Request. She said they are trying to create a voting member on the Board of Regents. She asked Policy Director Cailles if there were any updates about it since he is working on it.

Policy Director Cailles said he would get back to Director Worrall with an update.

Director Worrall said Policy Director Cailles and herself are working on it, but anyone else from the Department can help if they would like.

b. **Report of the Assistant Director, Olivia Komanduri**

Assistant Director Komanduri said she did not report as much last meeting. She said she talked to Raul Rodriguez about changing the Department of Legislative Affairs website. She said they changed the description for the Department and made it more about empowering students. She said they can go look at it and see how they feel about it. She said they had discussed adding the office hours to the website, but she did not want to put up some of them. Assistant Director Komanduri said she can send Raul Rodriguez an email with their office hours if they would like them on there. She said she also changed the link title for the Legislative Tracker to make it clearer. She said if they had any ideas for the website, they should let her know and she will email Raul Rodriguez. Assistant Director Komanduri said she added everyone's tabling times to the calendar. She said she would like to check with them to ensure the tabling times are good for them. She expressed how important communication is for the tabling. She said she knows everyone does not have a schedule for next semester yet, but they should start sending in times that will work for them. She said the hours will be from 10am to 1pm and she can create a spreadsheet for it.

Director Worrall said she would like to pose whether or not they would like to continue tabling. She said she is not able to gauge how the Department members feel about the purpose of tabling and its success. She asked for their opinions.

Policy Director Cailles said they have had tabling days where it has gone very well. He said they gathered comments to present to the Reno City Council, which they still have on record. He said they have had tabling days that have not worked out. He said they should continue to do it but consider doing it less often. He said they should focus on the quality of tabling instead of the quantity.

Projects Coordinator Manfredi agreed with Policy Director Cailles. She said they should do it once a week instead of twice a week on a day that everyone is available. She said that day they received good opinions on Campus Escort. She said they should not stop tabling, just do it once a week. Projects Coordinator Manfredi said it came down to the Department members making a commitment to table. She said they should not continue it if the group does not agree. She said the effort they put in is beneficial.

Assistant Director Komanduri said she thought tabling was good and they have gotten good responses from students. She said she feels students are happy to have an outlet to engage with ASUN. She said students do not really know about the work that ASUN does. She said she posted on social media about the tabling and people messaged her to ask if they could still come. She said the outreach they do is good. Assistant Director Komanduri said it was easy for them to get students' opinions during tabling earlier that day. She said almost all of them wrote down a comment on the paper they had, and the students enjoyed doing it. She thought they should continue to do tabling. She said if everyone does not want to do it anymore that is fine, but they should make the effort to reach out to students.

Policy Analyst Del Turco said twice a week is excessive for tabling. She said the tabling they did that day was good. She said when they have events it is good for tabling. She said sometimes tabling can be very dead and they are just waiting for it to end. She agreed with Projects Coordinator Manfredi. She said if they do not feel like tabling a certain week they should not do it.

Projects Coordinator Manfredi said Vice President Bradley stopped by their tabling and complimented them for paying attention to the Senate agenda and asking for student opinions. She said the job of the Department of Legislative Affairs is to communicate and educate students about what they are doing. She said it was important to hear the feedback.

Director Worrall asked Policy Director Cailles if he had to say something about the opposite side.

Policy Director Cailles said good call for the question they had for tabling.

Director Worrall said they will keep tabling.

Assistant Director Komanduri said the interns are now in charge of the Bill Draft Request tracker. She said if their interns ask them questions, they can answer them or direct them to talk to her. She reminded everyone they are invited to come to their intern meetings every Thursday at 8pm in the President's Conference Room. She said tomorrow Senator Alvarez and Daniel Little, who is in charge of elections, will be speaking to the interns. She said Director Worrall discussed having a relationship with Public Affairs. She said learning about Public Affairs will be helpful. She said November 28<sup>th</sup>, a representative for Senator Cortez Masto's office will come to speak to the interns in the President's Conference at 12pm. She said it is for the interns, but any of the Department members can come. She said the talk will be more about the day to day looks like in the Senators office. She said she will send them an email about it.

c. **Report of the Policy Director, Joko Cailles**

Policy Director Cailles said yesterday Policy Analyst Del Turco, Gunner, and himself met. He said they shared the master sheet with Gunner. He said they plan to have their interns Alexa and Gunner compile a file on elected officials in Nevada. He said after they have the officials' names, they will do research on the policies they supported in the past. He said next semester when they begin lobbying, they will know which legislators would be most likely to support the issue. Policy Director Cailles said he talked to Gunner about doing the Legislative Tracker sheet as well. He said the policy interns are helping with those projects. He said he will be meeting with Councilwoman Jarden. He said in his one-on-one with Director Worrall he mentioned the meeting with Councilwoman Jarden would be a good meeting to propose the Reno City Council. He said he emailed Councilwoman Jarden on November 1<sup>st</sup> but received no answer. He said tomorrow he will send an email to her community liaison. He said if he does not hear back from her, he will email all the other members of the Reno City Council. Policy Director Cailles said they need to find a member of the Council to respond to them, so they can get the ball rolling on the initiative for the Reno College Council. He said after the meeting I set up their plan of attack can be discussed. He said he has not reached out to the Department of Diversity and Inclusion about the Native American Voting Rights Act.

Policy Analyst Del Turco said she can reach out to the Department of Diversity and Inclusion about the Native American Voting Rights Act.

Policy Director Cailles thanked her and said he can send her the information.

Policy Analyst Del Turco said she knows Director Amerzada and can text her about it. She asked for Policy Director Cailles to send her the information.

Policy Director Cailles said he will send her the information. He said Policy Analyst Del Turco and himself clarified how they divided What's on the Agenda for tabling. He said Policy Analyst Del Turco would look at local commissions such as Reno City Council, Washoe County Commission, and the Nevada System for Higher Education Board of Regents. He said he will handle the Nevada legislature, United States Congress, the United Nations, and bureaucratic departments. He said even if there is no tabling, they should still fill out the sheet since Director Worrall still must report to the Senate. Policy Director Cailles said he discussed with Director Worrall about the WebCampus module and setting up a meeting for it.

Director Worrall said they need to get information from the Senators on Bill Draft Request ideas, so they can do research. She said they can email the Senators.

Policy Director Cailles said it would be beneficial to meet with Senators. He said Policy Analyst Del Turco, Director Worrall, or anyone else from the Department can be there to talk to the Senators face to face. He said emails can get lost.

d. **Report of the Projects Director, Nick Wolfram**

Projects Director Wolfram said he does not have much to report on. He said the same events are in the works and there are basic job sheets in the Drive for the events for them to get started on when they come back next semester. He said tabling is over after next week since he has no more tabling schedules. He asked the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center all the way up to around December for the times they wanted and none of them were available. He said by the time they get back from Thanksgiving break it will be cold. He asked if they would like to schedule more tabling dates in the Joe Crowley Student Union. He said they should send him their school schedules if they have them, so they can have tentative times for tabling. He said they do not have to do the same hours every week, they can do a Monday one week and a Tuesday the next week if they would like. He said the Affordable Housing event will be on November 26<sup>th</sup> which Director Worrall will discuss in her report.

Director Worrall said they have tabling in the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center on November 26<sup>th</sup> to promote the Affordable Housing event.

Projects Director Wolfram asked what time the tabling was.

Director Worrall said she thought it was from 11am to 1pm. She said for the other dates they could do November 20<sup>th</sup> if they think they should. She said they can also do tabling on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Policy Director Cailles said he forgot to mention, but last week Director Worrall mentioned a Town Hall with legislators before the session starts.

Director Worrall said yes, but there is no time to plan a quality event. She said they were going to do one bimonthly next semester.

Policy Director Cailles said they wanted to set up a meeting with the person who represents their district, so they can establish a relationship with her. He said he can reach out.

Director Worrall said they should come together as a Department to think about who they would like to talk to.

Policy Director Cailles asked if Director Worrall wanted him to wait to reach out to her.

Director Worrall said no, he can reach out now. She asked Projects Director Wolfram if that was it for his report.

Projects Director Wolfram said yes.

Director Worrall asked if there was tabling the week of Thanksgiving.

Assistant Director Komanduri said she was confused. She asked if there was tabling scheduled the week of Thanksgiving.

Director Worrall said there is none scheduled for that week.

Assistant Director Komanduri said they should not do tabling then.

e. **Report of the Policy Analyst, Marisa Del Turco**

Policy Analyst Del Turco said she researched student representation on the Reno City Council. She said what was said online was not useful. She said she can add more to her research and she had her intern Gunner assist with the research. Policy Analyst Del Turco apologized for being late. She said Senator Rodgers informed her about a bill just passed through the NSHE Board of Regents for an exception of student fees for students in foster care. She said she will research the bill more and talk to a couple judges about the bill. She said she will work with Senator Rodgers to get more information on the bill. Policy Analyst Del Turco said she will also send the information to them. She said to Policy Director Cailles that this week and next week for her were busy school-wise. She said she would reach out to the Department or the interns because she would like to get started on the research. She said it is a prominent issue for students.

Policy Director Cailles said he would be happy to help.

Policy Director Del Turco said agenda wise the Department members can see it. She read some of the items off the ASUN Senate's agenda.

Director Worrall said she is confused because the NSHE Board of Regents passed that in September. She asked what they were going to research.

Policy Analyst Del Turco said Senator Rodgers wanted her to research it and meet with the family judge responsible for it and see where it is going. She said there was talk about a time limit for kids who can qualify. She said it could discourage kids from finding a home because they could have to choose between finding a home and having their tuition paid. She said she is unsure what the actual bill says.

Director Worrall said she was there when Senator Rodgers talked to President Jackson about the bill. She said Policy Analyst Del Turco should look into it more. Director Worrall said she has heard conflicting things about the bill. She said they will discuss it later.

Policy Analyst Del Turco said yes. She said she does not know enough yet, but she will look into it more.

Director Worrall said yes.

Policy Analyst Del Turco said that is all she had to report.

f. **Report of the Projects Coordinator, Sheridan Manfredi**

Projects Coordinator Manfredi said she met with Sandra Rodriguez on Tuesday. She said the survey is no longer happening. She said the presences office put a cap on the surveys going out and there will be no more this semester. She said a sexual assault survey will be going out and in February the university climate survey will be going out and they will both have big incentives. She said the office would not promote any other surveys going out. Projects Coordinator Manfredi said there will be a Civic Engagement survey that hits the points they asked in their survey. She said the data is significantly good and there is no need to go beyond. She said Sandra Rodriguez would like to meet in April to discuss what else can be included in the survey to better form their legislative agenda in the next Department of Legislative Affairs. Projects Coordinator Manfredi said Sandra Rodriguez would like them to draft legislation for the administrative staff to always meet with the Department of Legislative Affairs the semester before the next survey goes out in order to aide them with the agenda. She said the survey would go out every two years in the spring semester. She said the data would be analyzed in the September of the same year which would be allow them to use it for the session. She said she met with Sandra Rodriguez to discuss the pages of the data to get insight from it. She said she can present the data and they can decide where to go from there. Projects Coordinator Manfredi said the page about student issues that she showed Policy Director Cailles stated mental health was the number one issue. She said she asked Stefanie to reach out to Senators about the survey and they spilt up reaching out to people for the web campus module. Projects Coordinator Manfredi said Director Worrall was looking for the module to be out in the next two weeks.

6. **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business discussed at this time.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. **Intern Introductions led by Bianca Weyers**

Bianca Weyers asked if she can do it next week since she needed to leave at 9pm.

Director Worrall said Bianca Weyers would lead them in a discussion about democracy and activism. She said they can do it next week.

8. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at this time.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Director Worrall adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.