

# 86<sup>th</sup> Session of the Senate of the Associated Students

Minutes for Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 5:30 P.M.

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

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Speaker Martinez called the Senate meeting to order at 5:30 pm in the Rita Laden Senate Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union. Presiding secretary, Andrea Godoy.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL**

Speaker Martinez and Senators Ahmed, Amaya, Aziz, Burton, Clemons, Collins, Flangas, Grant, Green, Hughes, Lemus, McKinney, Rogaczewski, Rogers, Sewell, Westerman, and Yeghiayan were present.

Senators Alvarez, Dobbs, Hudson, Sewell, and Wilcox were absent excused.

A quorum was present.

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

a. **The minutes from January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

b. **The minutes from February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

c. **The minutes from February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Senator Green moved to approve agenda items 4a-c by unanimous consent.  
There was no dissent; motion carried.

d. **The minutes from February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

e. **The minutes from March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

f. **The minutes from March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

The minutes from February 27<sup>th</sup>, March 6<sup>th</sup>, and March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 were unavailable at this time.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Executive Vice President & Provost, Kevin Carman. Provost Carman said: this is an umbrella in case you are not used to using it in Nevada. He asked Speaker Martinez if he should just dive in.

Speaker Martinez said Senator Hughes sent out the information. He asked her to elaborate.

Senator Hughes said the University is making a new strategic plan and they wanted feedback from this body before the transition into the next session since most of the current senators will be gone. Feedback from the next body will also be gathered so that the University can consider this feedback and the feedback from the next session to determine priorities and what should be included. She asked Provost Carman if the new plan will be implemented in the fall 2019 term.

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**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](http://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](mailto:Speaker@asun.unr.edu).



Provost Carman said yes.

Senator Hughes told the body that now is a good time to give any recommendations they may have.

Speaker Martinez said Provost Carman should present first so that the body is aware of what is already being included.

Provost Carman wanted to give some background on how this all works and what the structure is like. The University has a strategic plan and a master plan that are created to guide the University's growth and development. These two plans used to be implemented through two independent processes and at different time scales. That is something that as institution, they worked hard on over the last years so that the plans aligned with the same major goals and matrices. Even though NWCCU has some specific requirements, the point is that these two plans complement, not contradict, each other. The University makes sure they align. He showed the body the copy of the plans that he keeps on his desk. They have seen spilled coffee and are covered in notes, but when one does a plan with a lot of effort put in and let it sit on a shelf somewhere, you end up wondering how you did later on. Instead of that, this institution is involved with their plans and to have better involvement, committees have been established annually to review the plans. There are four major components: learning, discovery, engagement, and sustainability and he can talk about what they are later. The committee has separate committees that determined the ratio for student to faculty should be 18:1. You may ask how that year was decided. When creating the plans, they looked at other land-grant universities across the nation and asked how many students there are relative to faculty members. Lower number mean more opportunities to interact with faculty and smaller classes. When looking at UNR's numbers at the beginning of this process, they were at 22:1. For comparison, we tied with Louisiana State and West Virginia for the highest ratio. The University committed to bringing down that ratio to 18:1 since that is the median for the universities reviewed. As of this past fall, we moved down to 19:1 and have continued to make steady progress. There is a good chance we can accomplish 18:1. The reason he brought this up was to say that even if they don't reach all their goals, they have made progress. Another matrix is the diversity of faculty. We have had several initiatives over the last few years to diversify faculty such as training search committees, implementing targeted hires, and employing spousal hire. The goal was to move from 21% to 25%. This may sound modest but it takes time to accomplish. He is happy to report that we reached over 25%. However, he isn't very pleased with that because our faculty isn't really that diverse. There is a lot of Asian faculty, which are all great, but they lack African-American, Native American, and Hispanic faculty. As they move into the next phase, he wants to be more specific about who they target to grow diversity in certain groups. Another goal they have, which they didn't meet, was 88% freshmen retention after the fall semester. We currently sit at around 81% or 82%, meaning we still needed to do work. On the other hand, we achieved a graduation rate of 60%. Overall, even if a goal is hit, we always aspire for more. How can we improve and be better. It's important to have aspirations but also set realistic goals. The next part of the process is to engage the entire university and ASUN to identify goals moving forward. A lot has happened recently, including the R1 designation and it has gained us national recognition and elevated our stature. However, the designation isn't guaranteed; three years from now, we will look at the matrix and if it hasn't been maintained, the classification will not be received. The University is also applying for the Carnegie designation for engagement. The next draft for the application is due April 15<sup>th</sup> and they will have their final response by December of next year. We have big goals for our direction and to continue growth and maturity. He wanted to point out that although we have four themes, they are all intertwined. You cannot separate learning from discovery. A big part of what makes something educational here is that you make discoveries while you learn. When we say engagement, we mean service learning, internships, and community volunteerism. ASUN has supported all those things. A major challenge is delineating goals while recognizing that that everything is interconnected. We don't need a thousand different matrices to indicate if progress has been made on our goals. We need to determine key indicators that measure progress and tell us if we are moving in the right direction. Another important facet is that

their goals and plans remain dynamic. We continuously employ committees that meet yearly to review progress. For example, for NevadaFIT, we had a goal of 1000 students by 2021 but this year, we hit 1600. So now need to think of what's next. He appreciated hearing what elements they think should be included and wanted to know what they thought could be improved on as well as student concerns and how to best engage students.

Senator Burton said one goal under learning for 2021 is achieving undergrad research participation at 40%. He asked where the University was now and how they planned to expand opportunities across more colleges.

Provost Carman said he didn't have the most current numbers. The committees will be meeting later in spring and tabulating but he knows they are short. It is difficult to accurately capture the rate of undergraduate research given there is a wide potential from completing an honors thesis to conducting your own research or helping a professor in their research. How one quantifies it is challenging. However, they do have a commitment to this since the University uses a portion of registration fees to give back to research as part of the agreement made with ASUN when fees were increased. It would be helpful to find better ways and to determine what that 40% actually means but the overall goal is to maximize undergrad participation in research in a meaningful way before leaving the institution. He agreed that the University can do better in shaping and identifying what undergrad research means.

Senator Rogers thanked Provost Carman for coming and she appreciated being invited to participate in the conversation. She said that the current plans mention accessibility but only twice. She asked if the new plans will include more solid efforts towards achieving accessibility.

Provost Carman asked Senator Rogers to elaborate on what accessibility meant to her since it could be defined in a variety of ways.

Senator Rogers clarified as ADA accessible and functional, including people of all ability levels. She agreed that a lot of different things can fall under accessibility but she wanted to see a more specific ballpark range of what the University will do to make the campus more accessible physically.

Provost Carman knew that there were many students and faculty members with mobility challenges and it was hard for them to get across campus. In the past, students with vision impairments have pointed out that braille signs are out of date. That is an area they are trying to remedy. There are also accessibility issues with learning materials and updating the University's website. But this is a big, complex issue and the University needed to be more specific in delineating issues and making sure they address them rather than lumping them together.

Senator Rogers said it was important that the University focus on making the campus more welcoming for all students, not just students with disabilities but everyone. Even nontraditional students as they often feel they don't have a place on campus. Her vision was that all students know that they are welcome on campus, even if it means seeing the University put forth the effort.

Senator Green wanted to clarify if the current plan had four goals.

Provost Carman said there are four themes.

Senator Green said the current plan on the provost's website only had the first three and it didn't include sustainability.

Provost Carman said it was in his copy but he will check to see what was posted on the website.

Senator Green said he just googled both the strategic and master plans for 2021 and only the first three were there.

Provost Carman apologized. He said he carries around an old copy but he will look to see what is published on his website.

Senator Flangas wanted to see transfer and nontraditional students have a center created for them that included academic integration and mentorship. Often times, nontraditional and transfer students need help figuring out how to maneuver the campus itself. With nontraditional students, they may need help with finding childcare or things like that. Transfer students often need campus engagement and academics. On that same strain, both subset of students need financial aid. It isn't good enough to recruit these students; the University needs to commit to retaining them. Many transfer students don't qualify for financial aid their first year here, even within their specific colleges since most college-specific scholarships require that students be enrolled for a minimum amount of semesters. Most students only qualify for things like Pell grants their first year.

Provost Carman said that was on his radar and he agreed with Senator Flangas. Part of University's aim is to target these students but they do often get left behind. The University focuses so heavily on welcoming first-time, full-time freshmen and there are lots of programs that are wonderful created just for those students, like NevadaFIT. Nontraditional and transfer students have some programs available to them but they are not as robust and they do have less financial aid. What they are looking into is creating something like NevadaFIT since it has been so great for full-time freshman but tailoring it for transfer students to help them hit the ground running and feel like they are a part of the community. The transfer and nontraditional students that come here are incredible and deserve to be supported as well. It can be a big change coming to the University and we should do more to help. He complimented Senator Flangas on her astute observation.

Senator Hughes saw that the current plan talks about housing and the goal is to have 25% of total undergrad students living in dorms. Even if that is accomplished, that still leaves 75% not on campus. The plan mentions having the University partner with private and public groups to create affordability and accessibility. However, the current average cost of rent is around \$700 but a student is only allowed to work 20 hours/week on campus. A person's rent isn't supposed to exceed 30% of their income. That means that a student's rent is way over that maximum. She wanted the University to look at putting a concrete number on how many public and private partnerships they wanted to quantify if this is met.

Provost Carman said many university students are facing the challenges of an increased cost of living and that puts pressure on the community. There are plans to help graduate students and family housing, but there isn't anything convenient for traditional students. There are many great living options near campus such as the YUnion and Identity but there are no formal partnerships. The university has added more dorm capacity but it isn't possible to accommodate all students, and not all students want to live in the dorms. He acknowledged that this is something that needs to be a part of the next plan. Students and faculty need more housing options, especially for those that wanted to be near the campus but struggled to find any appropriate housing.

Senator Amaya said Learning 365 promised flexible schedules but current online classes require proctored exams. This means that many students need to fly back to campus at least twice for a final and midterm exam. But needing to fly back is not really flexible.

Provost Carman said that is actually being changed by the end of the next semester. They have a proctored AI program that can be used and there is also a committee that was charged at looking at how to find the best way for online class exams. For this one, the box can be checked, but he appreciated the feedback.

Senator Flangas had one last suggestion. She did research and at some colleges, Like Northwestern's engineering program, students spend a whole year rather than just one semester working with the community to solve problems and the courses are designed around that problem. Since this was a land-grant institution she recognized something like this could be challenging but she felt the institution should implement something similar seeing as how it is focused on research. Many students that participated this said they loved helping the community. And on that same thread, if it's not possible, maybe working up to the idea of service learning courses. The overall idea is that students engage with the local community before graduating.

Provost Carman loved that idea. The University is working to increase service learning and being engaged with the community. Right now, they are working to identify an issue and working with them to solve it. He asked Senator Flangas to forward the link to him about the program. He wanted to look through it since it sounded like an aspirational goal. The question would be of scaling and implementing it. There are some capstone courses that include some type of experience but it isn't always community engagement. But he can look at that structure since it was a great idea.

Senator Hughes said she talked briefly about this the last time she met with him about how much students spend on tuition and fees and then they need to spend an additional \$400-600 for textbooks, not including other materials and supplies. She wanted to see the University set goals to limit how much money students are spending on course materials. How can they make it so no student spends more than x amount per semester?

Provost Carman there are various initiative. ASUN's bookstore had been great in partnering with and looking for alternative and less expensive materials. It isn't productive to set absolute limits since there are so many variations but nevertheless, setting goals for maximizing materials that are of no or lower costs and working strategically to reduce textbook costs and licensing are great examples of what can be in the plans.

Senator Collins said to go off of Senator Hughes's comment, she stumbled on open educational resources and was passionate about it. She learned about how other universities implement it and Oklahoma has a successful program. She wanted to ask if he has looked into it.

Provost Carman discussed it with the Wolf Shop and how to best implement it. They have many faculty members that are already doing that. The goal is to expand it so that more faculty use OERs. Sometimes, OERs are less structured and that makes them less appealing whereas with textbooks, all the information is laid out in a nice format and has graphics and supplementary materials included. OERs are out there but you have to collect them yourself. There is now actually a budding industry within higher education that works to support higher education through OERs. Some companies that recognize the gap between faculty and students want to reduce costs by charging a small fee to gather OERs for professors and deliver them. It's still not a textbook but it makes the workload smaller on the professor and that makes OERs more desirable. That is an area they are in discussion with the Wolf Shop. Some people are doing it but the challenge finding and bringing good ideas to scale as well as making it appealing for all faculty.

Senator Burton asked if OERs would impact a college's accreditation.

Provost Carman didn't think so but he would look at carefully that since he wouldn't want to jeopardize their accreditation. Lots of latitude is given to faculty in choosing their materials. They often look at the syllabus and course content. But whenever something new is potentially being implemented, they always examine the standards.

Senator Amaya wanted to see the strategic plan include a 24-hour student study space since only Great Basin offers that currently.

Provost Carman asked where the ideal space would be.

Senator Amaya said anywhere since apparently the KC was not feasible.

Provost Carman said that discussion has been going for a long time. The University was fortunate to have Dean Kathy Ray in Libraries. She worked hard to find possible solutions but there are expenses and safety issues related to creating a space like that. The reality is that when the KC has been kept open 24 hours, students don't really come. There are a few here and there but overall, there isn't enough use to justify it. But he understood Senator Amaya's point and acknowledged that an aspirational goal is how to maximize the current space and resources that they do have, such as the KC and PSAC.

Senator Flangas said on that same thread, when they do look at a space, they need to keep in mind the resources students might need. That is why the KC is such a good space; it has the software engineers need and the anatomy boxes. If the study space isn't in the KC, they should look at ensuring how to make those resources available.

Senator Hughes said last semester in November or October, the ECC was opened on Saturdays but many students still don't know. Doing something like that also includes publicizing it and making it common knowledge to all students. Since it was closed for so long on Saturdays, students are accustomed to that. If they did a pilot program for like a year, that would allow time for students to become accustomed. If times changed sporadically, only a few might come but if it was a prolonged amount of time they would see better results.

Provost Carman said they did a pilot program for one semester in the KC and agreed that maybe it does need to be longer. Especially, if students don't know it is open; the University needs to be mindful that students might not be aware of resources.

There was no further comments or questions for Provost Carman at this time.

Provost Carman appreciated the opportunity for discussion and felt that the insight from tonight was valuable and important. He encouraged the body to reach out if something didn't come out tonight that should have. This information is what will be used to guide the future of the University. While they may be graduating this year or next year, keep in mind that this feedback will impact future students. This feedback will enable them to build the university up and increase the value of their degree. For example, those students from a few years ago can now say they graduated from an R1 institution. Greater things are ahead and their input guides them. Students before them said they needed a fitness center and paid for it without ever getting to use it. It was important to pay it forward. He hoped to be invited back.

Speaker Martinez thanked Provost Carman for coming.

Daniel Little, Director of Elections. He said he was present to talk about the elections results and announce the winners:

- President:
  - Anthony Martinez – 2,428 votes
- Vice President:
  - Nicole Flangas – 2,413 votes
- College of Business:
  - Jakeyla Hall – 292 votes

- Keegan Murphy – 317 votes
- Cameron Veltre – 297 votes
- Madelyn Watt – 293 votes
- College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources
  - Alexander Melchor – 97 votes
  - Cecilia Romero – 123 votes
- College of Education:
  - Isaiah Davenport – 125 votes
  - Jennifer Rogers – 129 votes
- College of Engineering:
  - Savannah Hughes – 259 votes
  - Steffany Yang – 229 votes
  - Ava Banfer – 178 votes
- Division of Health Sciences:
  - Valeria Ampié – 85 votes
- School of Journalism:
  - Dominique Hall – 90 votes
- College of Liberal Arts:
  - Conner Doyle – 282 votes
  - Lauren Harvey – 278 votes
  - Tori Supple – 247 votes
  - Izzy Westerman – 306 votes
  - Victoria Yeghiayan – 270 votes
- College of Science:
  - Hayley Collins – 211 votes
- Interdisciplinary Programs:
  - Abraham Ahmed – 78 votes
- Community Health Sciences:
  - John Donohue – 292 votes
  - Vanessa Komanduri – 308 votes
  - William Prempeh – 304 votes

There was no further public comment at this time.

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

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

**7. REPORTS OF ASUN OFFICERS**

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

Speaker Martinez read the report into the record:

“Good evening senators. I apologize for my absence tonight. I hope you had a great break and are ready to make the most of the last few weeks of our terms! Today I met with Vice Provosts Heaton and Shintani, as well as Provost Carman and Dr. Ellis to discuss Anti-Defamation League training for faculty. Our first instillation of the pilot program will be Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. I will get back to you all with exact times but please try and make room in your schedules for that evening. I met with Registrar Heather Turk this week to discuss issues that were brought to me by individual students and highlighted in the recent Sagebrush article regarding gender inclusivity and misgendering. There is a lot of great work that is happening with allowing students to include their preferred name in our databases, but I believe that the next step in this process would be having space for students to designate their

preferred gender identification and pronouns. I am hoping that ASUN can advocate for this on a larger scale. If you would be interested in sponsoring a resolution regarding this or learning more, please reach out to me. We are still working on organizing a panel and discussion surrounding food insecurity on college campuses on Thursday, April 18. I hope you all make it to Fail Forward tonight! It will be a wonderful event. Have a great rest of your week. Hannah”

**b. Vice President of the Associated Students, Carissa Bradley**

Speaker Martinez read the report into the record:

“Hello Senators. This evening I will be at the Fail Forward Celebrity Panel so I cannot be with you all unfortunately. I hope everyone enjoyed their spring break and came back refreshed to finish this last leg of your terms. As for my report, I have been working on my transition materials with Vice President Elect Flangas and will continue to train her in order to make sure that she is prepared moving into this new and exciting role. I have been writing down all my projects and things that I wish I would have accomplished into my legacy box so that in the event a future officer would like to take them on, they are available. Last night we determined the winners of the 5 awards to be given out at banquet. Thank you to Senator Aziz for sitting on that committee and each of the members from departments. We had some really great discussions about all the nominations. I appreciate those of you that took the time to nominate your fellow peers for these awards. It is important to recognize as many people as possible throughout the year. Just a reminder that "The Hunting Ground" will be showing next Tuesday from 6-8:30pm in the theater. This film is about sexual assault on college campuses and will host a panel Q & A after. Please email me with any questions! Respectfully, Vice President Bradley.”

**c. Chief Justice, Kate Groesbeck**

Chief Justice Groesbeck hoped the Senators all had a good break; hers was short which meant that theirs probably was too. Today, she went to the Advisory Board for the Joe with Chief of Staff Dutcher. They talked scheduling regulations, which wasn't excited at all. For SAS revisions, a draft with comments was sent to Attorney General Moore; he will send it back to her soon. The Council had a mock trial this past month and they were feeling prepared if a case happened. Two charges have been filed as of right now. She will attend Budget and Finance this Friday since there were some issues with how much the Associate Justices were getting paid but it was handled as far as he knew. There will be vacancy for Chief Justice and one Associate Justice. She asked the body to spread the word if with anyone that might be interested. She worked really hard to grow the program and hoped it would keep growing.

Speaker Martinez passed the gavel to Senator Hughes.  
Senator Hughes accepted.

*Senator Clemons and Speaker Martinez left the room at 6:18 pm.*

**d. Chief of Staff, Matthew Dutcher**

Intern Finkler said the ASUN banquet is on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Please get there at 5:30 pm; dinner starts at 6:00 pm. If they have class, please let Chief of Staff Dutcher know but of course they can still come. He and Chief of Staff Dutcher went shopping for the awards to get them ready for the night.

**e. Director of Clubs and Organizations, Luke Bittar**

Director Bittar said a funding workshop will be held later next week to help clubs prepare for the upcoming funding hearing. Other than that, there isn't much to report.

*Speaker Martinez entered the room at 6:20 pm.*

Senator Hughes passed the gavel to speaker Martinez.  
Speaker Martinez accepted.

**f. Director of Event Programming, Austin Lensch**

Speaker Martinez read the report into the record:

“Hi Senators! I hope you're all doing well. The Department of Event Programming is currently hosting our Fail Forward week. Our goal is to encourage students to use their failures as opportunities for growth. Please join us directly after Senate in the Wells Fargo Auditorium for our Campus Celebrity Panel. Daniel Fred, Kim Thomas, Dr. Shannon Ellis, Commander James, and Jody Lykes will be answering questions about their failures and how they overcame them. Again, PLEASE JOIN US RIGHT AFTER SENATE!!!! The event is from 6:30pm-8:00pm. Tomorrow, we will be giving out free donuts for our Donut Give Up event from 12-2 in the KC Rotunda. Family Weekend is next weekend (April 5-7). This Friday is the last day to sign up online. Please invite your families and join us in on the fun. The Diversity Summit Speaker is Thursday, April 11th at 7pm in the Joe Ballrooms. Please mark your calendar! Noor Tagouri is our keynote speaker for the event! At 25 years old, Noor Tagouri has emerged as a prominent Muslim-American woman, blazing a trail across mainstream media. She is a force like no other. Since launching her viral #LetNoorShine campaign in 2012, Tagouri has built a socially-aware and engaged community of over one million social media followers. At the same time, she's garnered international praise as one of new media's most influential voices. Please join us for her keynote address! Please email me with any questions you might have! Austin Lensch”

**g. Director of Legislative Affairs, Katie Worrall**

Director Worrall said the department's event surrounding sexual assault and rape culture will be on April 8<sup>th</sup> in the Great Room. They are working with NV Cares and Take Back the Pack to plan the agenda. It will be an informative event. She hoped they can all stop by and encourage others to stop by as well. They are also working on the Campus to the Capital event. That will be on April 19<sup>th</sup>. She will send out the information soon. Even though it is after their terms, she wanted them to attend. There will be tabling outside to talk about ASUN's priorities as well as have some students speaking about things they are passionate about. There will be shirts and food. The point of this event is to amplify the University's presence in Carson. On Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> if she remembered correctly, Amber Joiner the former representative for this District, and Sarah Peters the current representative will talk about how to lobby to the incoming senators.

*Senator Clemons entered the room at 6:22 pm.*

**h. Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Arezo Amerzada**

Commissioner Releford said: Hi everyone! Our department has teamed up with the department of gender, race, and identity to bring Dr. Kristyl Tift to campus this Friday! Dr. Tift is a critically acclaimed actress, singer, songwriter, and Assistant Professor of Theater and Performance Studies at Kennesaw State University in Atlanta, Georgia. She has been featured in films and TV shows including House of Payne, Hall Pass, Greenleaf, and more. Please join us for her keynote address "Embodying Intersections in Contemporary Performance Poetry" at 1pm this Friday in the Wells Fargo Auditorium in the @one level of the KC. We are also very excited to announce Noor Tagouri is going to be the keynote speaker for the Northern Nevada Diversity Summit at 7pm in the JCSU Ballrooms on April 11th! Noor is a prominent Muslim-American journalist whose storytelling has changed the media landscape. The link to RSVP is in the ASUN Instagram bio! Our micro-aggression video submission form is still open and we need more participants! If you

or someone you know has heard or faced micro-aggression on campus, please submit a form! Let's try to bring awareness to the impact words can make on others! Thanks!

**i. Director of Sustainability, Sierra Jickling**

*Senators Green and McKinney left the room at 6:26 pm.*

Director Jickling said had a recap of the Earth Week events. It will occur after their terms end but she hoped they would come out; it will be a fun event. She had only four events planned as some of them needed to be redone. On Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup>, there will be a volunteering opportunity to plant trees around Truckee River or pick up trash. She will send out a comprehensive email tomorrow over the listserv so they had that info at their fingertips. She wanted to advertise that on the 28<sup>th</sup>, she is partnering with Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful's Earth Day. Reno Earth Day is not happening but she will be there volunteering.

*Senators McKinney and Green entered at 6:29 pm.*

**j. Director of Campus and Public Relations, Mapuana Andrade**

Speaker Martinez read the report into the record:

"Hi all. I don't have much to report just please make sure we are sharing the graphic that Chief of Staff Dutcher sent to all of us! Thank you! Mapuana Andrade"

**k. Director of Campus Wellness, Brennan Jordan**

Director Jordan said the filming for the discussion about sexual assault and gender ID and privilege will be tomorrow. They will be filming with different students on campus about different sensitive topics and running that as a pilot. He didn't want to put something out there that not everyone may want out. They will explore this and see if it was a viable option for communicating ideas with students. The screening will be done as a reveal for health week. Partly for feedback and partly to keep it internal. He hoped to see them there. Feedback is super important. He will go over the dates again. Before Director Jickling's event on Monday the 8<sup>th</sup>, he will be at Pack the Snack handing out cheap and healthy snacks in Hilliard and KC. Tuesday is the health fair from 10-2 in front of the KC. It will be similar to Service Palooza where you have to talk to vendors and get tickets before getting food. Wednesday is an activities trail around campus meant to highlight different campus spots. President Johnson and Dr. Ellis will make guest appearances. The food panel will be in DMS on Thursday to address how to eat. That will be in DMS 105 on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Finally on Friday, they will have the film review in Joe 320. That will be most important day to remember since he wanted their input.

**l. Attorney General, Omar Moore**

*Senator Burton left the room at 6:32 pm.*

Speaker Martinez read the report into the record:

"Hope everyone had a great break! Just two brief updates from me:

- Two upcoming committee meetings I will be attending in the coming weeks are the student fee review committee as well as the core theme 1 committee. Any feedback or insight wanting to be shared in discussions at these tables are always welcome, just reach out.
- Also with the close of election, Director Little and I are about to begin to substantially reviewing the elections code. Anyone wanting to be a part of these conversations is also welcome and has only need to email me.

That's it from me, have a dope week!"

**m. Speaker of the Senate, Anthony Martinez**

Speaker Martinez said he will keep it brief. He asked the body to volunteer if they can for KidsU from 9-10 am tomorrow. Senators Rogaczewski and McKinney had already volunteered but he was wondering if anyone else could be there. He knew it was the same time as cheerios time in the Downunder Café but if anything comes up last minute, it would be great if they could attend. Everyone that has been nominated for an award at banquet has been put down on this list. He will pass out the surveys; just check the box or circle the name of the person they think should win in each and get it back to him by the end of the meeting. If they didn't receive the outreach hours form, let Secretary Godoy know to get it fixed. Their last meeting is April 10<sup>th</sup>. If they need legislation fast-tracked be sure to write a memo for it. Otherwise, the legislation will have to go through committee. Get all agenda items to him by 5 pm on Thursday. He already had received six things.

**8. REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEES**

**a. Chair, Committee on Academics – Senator Collins**

Senator Collins was sure that the body was tired of receiving messages and emails from her but luckily, their terms were almost over. Tomorrow at 3:30 pm, there will be a meeting for a temporary committee to allocate \$10,000 toward the international research awards. She already had three senators, including herself, attending. She understood if they had class and didn't want them to feel pressured but if anyone else can attend, let her know. It would be good to have more people there. Dr. Mensing asked her to reach out about the NURA award, which is what they did last year where you get 10 or so applications, you fill out rubrics on them, and then send them back. It wasn't too hard and if you are interested, let her know. She only had three so far and didn't want to send a list of three to Dr. Mensing. Aside from that, there is a meeting on Friday and the only thing on the agenda is legislation about OERs, which we just talked about with Provost Carman. She is working on the legacy box.

Senator Flangas asked for the time again.

Senator Collins said tomorrow at 3:30 pm in the Senate Chambers.

Senator Martinez asked if anyone else can make it.

Senators Flangas and Westerman volunteered.

Dr. Beattie said looking through applications is something that can be put on resumes as part of their skillsets.

Senator Rogers volunteered.

Speaker Martinez said that can also be added to CVs.

**b. Chair, Committee on Budget and Finance – Senator Grant**

Senator Grant said there is a committee meeting on Friday at 10 am to conduct more financial reviews.

**c. Chair, Committee on Civic Engagement – Senator Amaya**

Senator Amaya said the committee met today to approve all the committee minutes ever. They only had one meeting left.

**d. Chair, Committee on Government Operations – Senator McKinney**

Senator McKinney said the committee will meet Friday at 1 pm. There was three pieces of legislation on the table about SAS changes and outreach hours.

**e. Chair, Committee on Public Affairs – Senator Alvarez**

Senator Aziz said the committee will meet on Friday at 1 pm in KC room 423. There was no legislation so anything that needed to be approved, will have to be fast-tracked since it was unlikely it would make it through committee in time.

**f. Chair, Committee on University Affairs – Senator Green**

Senator Green said the committee is meeting on Friday at 12 in the PCR. They will talk about the accessibly walkthroughs and gather volunteers to attend the Earth Week Events. The walkthrough will be done on Saturday afternoon, if anyone was able to attend. He will send out more information in the Group Me and will buy donuts. If they could attend, that would be awesome.

Speaker Martinez suggested the information be sent over the listserv to all ASUN to get more individuals to attend.

**g. Speaker Pro-Tempore – Senator Hughes**

Senator Hughes said she reached out to all the senator elects about scheduling meetings. She got their emails and will send out a group email for all the colleges. She encouraged the outgoing senators to reach out to the incoming senators in their colleges so they can set up a verbal legacy box and give insight for a better transition. She knew not everyone was interested but if they were, let her know as many of the incoming senators wanted to meet.

**h. Chair, Committee on Oversight – Speaker Martinez**

Speaker Martinez said there is no meeting this week but the committee will meet on April 8<sup>th</sup>, two days before their last meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

*Senator Sewell entered the room via telephone at 6:41 pm.*

**9. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no comments or announcements at this time.

**10. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK APPOINTMENTS**

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

**11. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS OF SENATORS AND ASUN OFFICIALS**

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

**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 17 of this agenda:

- a. S.R. 86 – A Resolution to Censure Senator McKinney
- b. S.R. 86 – A Resolution in Support of Amending Student Course Evaluations

*Senator Burton entered the room at 6:41 pm*

**15. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK LEGISLATION**

**a. S.R. 86 – A Resolution in Support of Amending Student Course Evaluations**

Senator Burton moved to fast-track agenda item 15a 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 received their second reading and were considered:

**a. S.R. 86 – A Resolution to Censure Senator McKinney**

Senator Aziz moved to approve S.R. 86 – A Resolution to Censure Senator McKinney.

Senator Burton seconded.

Speaker Martinez straightforward. He asked Secretary Godoy if she brought the points memo.

Secretary Godoy said no because she forgot.

Speaker Martinez said that was fine; he can pull up the memo if necessary. He asked Senator McKinney if he wanted to present anything.

Senator McKinney believed there were two ways you could look at this. One was through the letter of the law and if you did use letter of the law, then he believed he should be censured. But the other is the spirit of the law and through that lens, he didn't believe he should be censured. To go over it, all of his points came from outreach hours except for 2/3's because he missed recess for senate. The initial outreach hours he didn't keep an accurate calendar. But when he looked back at what he was doing, he attended Howl Fest and helped set up "Are you Smarter than a Senator?" and he just forgot to put those in. In November, he attended the Veterans' Luncheon and that can be confirmed by several of the senators at the table. He didn't have excuses for the rest of the hours but believed they were administrative errors. If the body had questions, he would take them now.

The body moved into discussion at this time.

Senator Burton asked Senator McKinney what his point total would be with the hours he just mentioned.

Senator McKinney said he didn't know but below five points.

Senator Grant said he normally viewed things from the letter but on this one, he agreed that it should be from the spirit of the law. Senator Grant felt that Senator McKinney brought in many valid points and he should not be censured.

Senator Aziz asked at what point should Senators not have to take responsibility for not meeting deadlines.

Senator McKinney asked Senator Aziz to repeat the question.

Senator Aziz asked when the body should start holding Senators accountable for meeting deadlines.

Senator McKinney said after this one.

Senator Flangas asked Senator McKinney to explain what he learned from his outreach hours. The purpose of outreach hours is to learn and talk to students. If he was to talk about what he had done, she wanted to hear the feedback he gathered.

Senator McKinney said he attended the Veterans Luncheon and had nice pizza and talked to veterans and members of ROTC on campus about their experiences and what kinds of things they use for counseling and other services. That is what he remembers. For Howl Fest, he wasn't 100% sure but he can go back to note that Senator Rogers also did help set up. He brought materials down and Senator Rogers ran the booth while he was at work. He came back after work and attended Howl Fest after.

Senator Rogers said it was important that Senator McKinney brought the bell down but the nametags and table cloths were bought down by other people and someone else brought up the stuff since she had the candy bucket. She worked the entire time during "Are you Smarter than a Senator?" and by the time she left, which was late, and Senator McKinney was not there.

Speaker Martinez wanted to make sure her comments are germane.

Senator Rogers said Senator McKinney was not outreaching, he set up a table.

Senator Grant said to go off of Senator McKinney, he felt this was an administration error since this was a new system.

Senator Hughes said that even if it had been administrative errors, everyone else has been competent to finish their hours by the time allowed. Additionally, if Senator McKinney had done the sufficient hours and there was an error, he could have appealed. Everyone has Secretary Godoy's and Speaker Martinez' contact info. If you look at the points memo, all justifiable points have been excused. As for an administrative issue, everyone else has had no issues and so she doubted this was a valid excuse.

Speaker Martinez said that if Senator McKinney had nothing to add; they can move into a vote.

Senator McKinney said he won't take anything personal; he just gave his reasoning.

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

- Aye: Ahmed, Collins, Hudson, Lemus, Rogers, Sewell, Westerman, Yeghiayan
- Nay: Amaya, Aziz, Burton, Clemons, Flangas, Grant, Green, Rogaczewski
- Abstentions: none

There was tie; Speaker Martinez was called as the tie breaker.

Speaker Martinez voted aye.

Motion carried.

**b. S.R. 86 – A Resolution in Support of Amending Student Course Evaluations**

Senator Collins moved to approve S.R. 86 – A Resolution in Support of Amending Student Course Evaluations.

Senator Green seconded.

Senator Hughes met with Provost Carman about a month ago and she expressed concerns for what had been discussed a lot in Academics for opening up course evals to students. She brought up how often ratemyprofessor is used. In addition, she also brought forward two questions to be added to the course evals that reflect course affordability, not just for students but for professors, as well as if the materials are beneficial. This would show faculty and students if what is being required for a course is too much, is it too expensive, and if it is benefitting students or not. Provost Carman urged Senator Hughes to write the legislation so that the conversation can be had with current officials and stakeholders. The official stance that the Office of General Council was that professor evals cannot be shared because it contains aggregate data and you cannot post aggregate data. This resolution advocates for statistics surrounding the survey to be posted, not for the actual feedback. And this is already being used currently with the University, so they needed to see if that argument was outdated.

The body moved to discussion at this time.

Senator Flangas said she has had professors assign course materials that they personally make money off of. She didn't know if that could be included in this document but asked if it could since it was very frustrating. She knew if she had a choice with courses, she would choose a course where a professor wasn't making money off of her.

Senator Burton asked if she meant it should be included as part of the draft of legislation or the survey.

Senator Flangas answered both.

Senator Beattie said it sounded like Senator Flangas wanted a student evaluation to include having students mark that the professor is using their own materials. If that is the case, then why would a professor ever tell students that. If he was teaching a class, he wouldn't make it publicly known.

Senator McKinney said you can see when you look at the authors of a book, the professor doesn't have to tell you.

Dr. Beattie said there are a lot of things that he has authored and have his name, but he makes no money off it.

Senator Flangas said she had a professor last semester that made them buy a book that he would get money off of. That is something to look at since it was weird.

Senator Hughes that was an interesting thing to look into and write legislation on in the future. Since she based this on the conversation she had with Provost Carman, and it was a joint effort, that wouldn't be suited for this legislation but for other legislation in the future.

Senator Rogaczewski felt that was an external circumstance. He didn't know how many students would be able to tell their professors had written their course materials, especially if the professor had a very common last name.

Senator Burton said that Senator Hughes made a great point and also felt that was a separate issue. He didn't think it should halt discussion.

Senator Rogaczewski asked what would make it more enforceable if materials are too expensive or not valid and if they can step in if required.

Senator Hughes said textbooks for classes fall under the freedom of higher education or academic freedom that professors have in that they can assign whatever they wanted. She was simply asking for feedback from students. When she talked to students, they often talked about how much money they spent on a textbook they used only once or that the textbooks were confusing or not relevant or that professors are asking them to buy their own textbooks. This is what she saw on ratemyprofessor causing a lot of students to just rent the textbook during exams. But because of that freedom of academics in higher education and this is a public institution, they cannot put limits on what professors request for their classes. This was just to give the students information on the textbooks and the classes.

Senator Burton asked if a more appropriate question was to have different materials listed like clickers and textbooks and students just mark everything that was essential.

Senator Hughes didn't think so. That is something she discussed when adding the additional questions and Provost Carman suggested that the question be limited and these two encapsulate what she wanted to see. The professor will know what the students refer to since they wouldn't think about a clicker if it wasn't used in their classes.

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

Motion carried.

**18. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

**a. Senate Committee Changes**

There were no committee changes at this time.

**b. Senator Reports**

There were no senator reports at this time.

**19. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no comments or announcements at his time.

**20. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Senator Flangas said all the applications for positions in ASUN next session are open. If they were interested or knew someone interested, spread the word. Share it on social media please. If you ran for re-election and won don't apply. The first round of applications will be pulled on April 9<sup>th</sup> and then on the 12<sup>th</sup>. The rest will finally be pulled on the 26<sup>th</sup> but they can all be reopened at the discretion of all the Directors. But just so they are aware, all deadlines are quickly approaching.

**21. ADJOURNMENT**

Speaker Martinez adjourned the meeting at 7:01 pm.