

Committee on Academics
Senate of the Associated Students 87th Session
Minutes for Friday, October 4th, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.
3rd Floor Joe Crowley Student Union – President’s Conference Room

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Senator Harvey called the committee on Academics to order at 4:00 pm in the President’s Conference Room in the Joe Crowley Student Union. Presiding secretaries, Breanna Czerlanis and Viviane Ugalde.

2. ROLL CALL

Senator Harvey, Senator Haley Collins, Senator Veltre, Senator Donohue, Senator D. Hall, and Senator Sivakumar were present.

Senator Romero was tardy excused.

Senator Romero entered the room at 4:00 pm.

A quorum was present.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

4. MINUTES

a) May 10th, 2019

The minutes for May 10th, 2019 were not approved at this time.



Posted at the ASUN Offices in the Joe Crowley Student Union, Frandsen Humanities Building, the Pennington Student Achievement Center, Mathewson- IGT Knowledge Center, and online at www.nevadaasun.com.

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

5. OLD BUSINESS

a) Senator Updates

Senators will report on their liaison positions, progress on committee goals, and any other projects relevant to the committee.

1. Faculty Senate – Senator Collins

Senator Collins said that on the 18th of October, that a representative from the core curriculum board will be speaking at the committee meeting. She requested that other senators come with questions for the representative at that meetings. She said that a representative from the service offices was meant to come in on October 11th, but she had already done a presentation for a pervious committee. Senator Doyle was present for that event, and will come to the next committee meeting to speak about it during public comment. Senator Collins said she was still working on the survey for faculty software.

Senator Harvey asked if Senator Collins notified the representative from service offices.

Senator Collins said yes.

Senator Harvey asked Senator colleens if she needed assistance with the software survey.

Senator Collins said yes, and that she was willing to receive questions from the other senators that she could add into the software survey for more statistics.

2. Office of the Provost – Senator Veltre & Senator Collins

Senator Veltre said that he met with Provost Carmen and the Vice-Provost from Nevada System of Higher Education. He said based on that interview, he was going to make a form of the information he learned. Senator Veltre said he learned about the Liberal Arts and Journalism Nevada Fit programs for incoming students, and that Business Fit will be required. Senator Veltre also learned that the Provosts are attempting to figure out how to make professors to use only one software collectively, to cut students costs and that a resolution on this would be possible. Senator Veltre asked Senator Collins if this meant they could skip the survey phase of the software resolution.

Senator Collins said that skipping the survey would be possible.

Senator Veltre said that he would get together the notes from his interview and they could decide about the survey phrase from there.

Senator Harvey asked what the provosts strategies were to move all professors to the same software program.

Senator Veltre said that the provosts were thinking about making it a requirement for professors.

Senator Harvey agreed that there would be a financial advantage for students if this resolution passed.

Senator Romero asked if the provosts could attend a committee meeting to explain their process before a resolution was finalized.

Senator Veltre said the provosts would be interested in that and that the survey Senator Collins was designing could still be necessary after meeting with the provosts. Senator Veltre said that the process of creating the resolution could take a while due to faculty disliking the idea of a one-software-only requirement.

Senator Harvey agreed that there was possibility for pushback from faculty, and requested for a date to be set for the provosts to clarify their process of the software requirement.

Senator Collins said she would continue working on the software survey until then.

3. Admissions & Records – Senator Sivakumar

Senator Sivakumar said he reached out to the Admissions and Records office to decide what they needed from legislators for the process of incoming students registering for classes. Senator Sivakumar said he also asked the Admissions and Records office about the students interactions with the new MyNevada program and discussing that at the next committee meeting on October 14th because the chair of Admissions and Records is absent.

4. Libraries – Senator Donohue

Senator Donohue said that he was going through data of the most popular times for libraries on campus and surveying hours for library times. Senator Donohue said he was not sure it was beneficial to create legislation for the library based on the data so far because it would cause library staffs to be on longer hours and therefore cost more for students, while also being ineffective.

Senator Harvey said that the legislation idea not being beneficial was a learning lesson, and that this discussion was still beneficial for the committee to know about. Senator Harvey said that Senator Donohue will soon be stepping down from the committee and therefore workload may grow for other senators. Senator Harvey requested figuring out an efficient system to make the movement of workload less intense for the remaining senators.

5. Career Studio – Senator Donohue & Senator Veltre

Senator Donohue said he met with Akelah Thompson from the Career Studio and discussed with her the issues she was concerned with. Senator Donohue said that there is

a lack of knowledge of Handshake as a job search site for students, so the senate should help promote the program more. Senator Donohue also reported that more freshmen have frequented the Career Studio and that the Career Studio was attempting to change perspectives of finding careers before you are an upperclassmen. Senator Donohue suggested the use of marketing material for career month in order to promote the Career Studio and their plans. Senator Donohue said he asked the Career Studio for any legislation they would like to see. He reported that the Career Studio would want a resolution of requiring faculty to add the Career Studio as a university resource in their syllabi.

Senator Romero said that this was also requested from other centers.

Senator Donohue said he learned that this decision was up to the discretion of the provost, or who is in charge of syllabus requirements, on what is an academic resource and what is not, and whether or not the Career Studio would fall under that guideline. Senator Donohue suggested that Senator Veltre should assist with the growth of this program and their request of legislation as Senator Donohue starts to leave the committee.

Senator Harvey said that the syllabus requirements discussion would be a topic to discuss when the provosts come to the committee meeting.

6. Academic Help Centers – Senator D. Hall & Senator Romero

Senator Romero reported that she contacted the Tutoring Center director, but she is on leave and therefore will not hear back until two weeks from October 4th. Senator Romero reported that she is meeting with the director of the Math Center next Thursday and will report on that discussion at the next committee meeting.

Senator Harvey asked Senator Romero what questions she had for the director of the Math Center, as well as what her plan was for her meeting with the Tutoring Center's director.

Senator D. Hall reported that she had been promoting events for the Writing Center. She agreed with Senator Donohue's idea about asking academic centers for suggestions on legislation, and that she will be doing that for the Writing Center.

Senator Harvey asked Senator Harvey about her progress with academic policy.

Senator D. Hall said she was reading the second of eight manuals for the academic policy. She was offered to stay on the academic integrity board and attend a hearing. Senator D. Hall said she was going to attend the hearing next week and was going to compare the judicial process between ASUN and the academic integrity board to see if there were any discrepancies.

Senator Harvey asked Senator D. Hall if there were any relevant discrepancies yet.

Senator D. Hall said no.

Senator Harvey asked when Senator Veltre could reach out to the provosts and asked him to report back when the provosts will attend a committee meeting, so that it can be added to a future agenda's public comment section.

7. Office of Undergraduate Research – Senator Harvey

Senator Harvey had nothing to report because there has been no correspondence between her and the director.

Senator Veltre said he was unsure who was the new director of the Office of Undergraduate Research, but that the old director could possibly answer some questions for Senator Harvey.

8. Nevada State Undergraduate Research Journal – Senator Harvey

Senator Harvey had nothing to report.

6. NEW BUSINESS

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Senator Harvey adjourned the meeting at 4:28 pm.