

Committee on Academics and Student Affairs

Senate of the Associated Students 88th Session

Minutes for Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Zoom Meeting: email Steffany Yang at SenatorYang@asun.unr.edu for more information

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Senator Yang called the committee on Academics and Student Affairs to order on Tuesday, September 1, at 9:07 am. Presiding secretary, Yesenia Pelayo.

2. ROLL CALL

Senators Yang, Taylor, Casildo Rios, Harvey, Kidd, Abrams, Ahmed, and Stoddard were present.

Senator McElhoes was tardy excused.

A quorum was present.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

4. MINUTES

There were no minutes to be heard at this time.

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. Liaison Positions

Senator Yang began by stating the committee's goal to discuss liaison positions as well as assign new positions to new committee members.

Senator Yang called on Senator Ahmed to choose a liaison position. She also stated new committee members needed at least two liaison positions but could have more than two then proceeded to list available positions.

Senator Ahmed chose Faculty Senate Liaison and Undergraduate Research Liaison.

Senator Yang asked if anyone had reached out to contacts. She called on Senator Harvey to begin.

Senator Harvey said she has been in contact with Dr. Kelly for Undergraduate Research and will reach back out to her in regards to coming back in and talking about opportunities for collaboration between Undergraduate Research and ASUN. Both Senator Harvey and Senator Yang have been in contact with the libraries. She discussed starting an open book fund for professors to use open educational materials in classrooms and how the libraries will need approval from ASUN.



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

Senator Yang said she would be more than happy to have Dr. Kelly come in and speak.

Senator Yang called on Senator Kidd to continue.

Senator Kidd confirmed her Student Affairs liaison. She said she was working on the grade replacement policy and was trying to come up with a grade replacement policy that will fit well with a majority of students.

Senator Harvey said her and several officers were working on the grade replacement policy as well and have been in contact with Heather Turk as well as other students. She said she would be happy to send Senator Kidd the emails if that would help.

Senator Yang thanked Senator Kidd and Senator Harvey. She then called on Senator Stoddard to continue.

Senator Stoddard confirmed his Office of the Provost, Nevada Career Studio, and Faculty Senate liaisons. He said he sent emails out and has not heard back from Provost. The Nevada Career Studio sent out events for them to make students aware of. For Faculty Senate, he said he had been in contact with Dr. Pason and Dr. Hritz. They were currently working on a long term plan in regards to online learning. They also wanted to put out some new framework for part time instructors as well as review the effectiveness of the campus affairs committee as a whole.

Senator Yang told Senator Stoddard that if Nevada Career Studio had any infographics they wanted ASUN to post on their social media to send them over to her or the 88th Session GroupMe.

Senator Yang called on Senator Casildo Rios to continue.

Senator Casildo Rios said he had yet to reach out to the academic advising and tutoring centers. He has reached out to his other contacts to let them know he could be a point of contact and to reach out if they needed anything.

Senator Yang called on Senator Abrams to continue.

Senator Abrams confirmed his Nevada Career Studio and Resident Hall Association liaisons. He said he had yet to reach out to them but would reach out soon.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Open Forum

Senator Yang asked if there were any questions in regards to the goals and roles members had as a part of this committee.

Senator Kidd asked if meetings were bi-weekly.

Senator Yang said she planned to have meetings bi-weekly as she didn't think it was necessary to meet every single week. However, if any urgent legislation were to come through they could make another meeting.

Senator Stoddard said he was starting on trying to expand the grade replacement policy up to 300 level classes. He asked if anyone had any opinions.

Senator Yang asked if there were any thoughts or responses.

Senator Kidd said she only partially agreed with expanding the policy up to 300 level classes. She said the class level should be capped at a certain amount and not expand to all 300 level classes because those higher level classes should be taken seriously and have more time dedicated to them.

Senator Yang asked Senator Ahmed if he had anything to add since he would be graduating soon and this might apply to him.

Senator Ahmed said that either way grade replacement has no effect when applying to medical schools as they look at every grade earned in a class. He said he was unsure if graduate schools did the same.

Senator Yang asked if there was anymore input.

Senator Harvey said she had previously discussed with other officers the concern of how high of a level class students should be able to retake as well as the time span in which students would have to retake the class. She said students had raised concerns on only having two semesters to retake a class and that it may be something to consider as well.

Senator Ahmed asked if anyone knew why that policy was in place. He said he thought that people willing to come back and take the class again later on should still have that opportunity.

Senator Harvey said that many of the rules surrounding grade replacement policy were arbitrary. They had compared it to those of UNLV and they were more lenient on the policies.

Senator Yang advised Senator Stoddard to get in contact with admissions and records to get their feedback.

Senator Yang asked if there was any more input.

Senator Harvey stated that new members could go to the Nevada Box and look through people's projects from last semester and continue on from there. She also stated she wanted to talk to Senator Yang more about submitting the faculty member of the year award legislation because it was not able to be submitted and awarded to the faculty member of the year last semester.

Senator Yang thanked Senator Harvey and reiterated using NEvada Box to look through old projects they could take over if they wanted to.

Senator McElboes entered the meeting at 9:29 am

Senator Yang asked if anyone had any questions or concerns.

Senator Abrams said that a student had raised concerns about the pass/fail system and he suggested writing legislation or a resolution about that.

Senator Yang said that Senator Abrams was welcome to collaborate with other members who were working on the grade policy or with admission and records.

Senator Yang asked Senator McElhoes if she had any questions or concerns.

Senator McElhoes said she was excited to get working on this committee.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Senator Yang adjourned the committee meeting on Academics and Student Affairs at 9:32 am on Tuesday September 1st.