

President's Cabinet
Senate of the Associated Students 88th Session
Minutes for Thursday, April 30th, 2020 at 4:30 pm
Zoom Online Conference

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

President Hall called the virtual meeting to order at 4:31 pm. The presiding secretary was Viviane Ugalde.

2. ROLL CALL

President Hall, Chief of Staff Bannoura, Directors Bajwa, Fullmer, Guillen, Kwan, Lanza, Rangel, Samuelson, Speaker Murphy, and Attorney General Flippin were present.

Vice President Brown 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 discussed at this time.

5. OFFICER REPORTS

a. President of the Associated Students, Dominique Hall

President Hall said that she submitted a memo and budget to Speaker Murphy and the Budget and Finance Committee. She said she has been attending weekly meeting with President Johnson if any of the cabinet had questions they would like to ask. She said they had been discussing the CARES Act and she recommended low income students receive funds first, but that anyone can receive them. She met with the Dean of Students today to talk about the emergency housing fund for students who are housing insecure, and the Dean recommended she create a survey for it. She said that she will be agendizing for the No Walls 2035 Task Force in future meetings as well.

Wes said that from a programming standpoint, he'd like to see what President Johnson expects from the department whether or not we come back from school in the fall semester or not.

Attorney General Moore asked why online students were not awarded with funds, and if it was brought up during the discussion.

President Hall said she couldn't remember the reasoning, but that was true that was said in the meeting.

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 Dominique Hall at president@asun.unr.edu.



Speaker Murphy said non degree seeking students were also not included and he and President Hall would ask about it next meeting with President Johnson.

b. Vice President of the Associated Students, Austin Brown

President Hall read Vice President's report into the record:

"Hello everyone. Sorry, I will be joining this meeting shortly. I am discussing funds with Dr. Ellis. If you have questions about anything you can ask me when I join. First off, congratulations. You all made it, and I am so proud of you. We are going to have a great year and I cannot wait to see what things we all accomplish together. As a few announcements for my report today, orientation will be held online this year, but ASUN will still be presenting/helping so I will need your help on this this year please. If you could either email or text me ideas of what people would like let me know. Last year we got reusable ASUN bags and reusable metal utensils that were a hit. We could do these again or if you have new ideas I am all ears. I am also considering masks as an option for this. Please make sure you all fill out your nametag request forms. If you have not done this please do it asap. Dom and I will be presenting the budget to the committee on budget and finance this Friday at 5 pm. If you have any questions or concerns about it please reach out to us, as we are here to help. I am also working with GSA and others to create the UNR Resources canvas module which should be published by the fall semester. It is almost ready to go, but I would appreciate any feedback you have on this module. I think this is all for now. Thank you for your help and understanding during these hard times. Thank you all, Vice President Brown."

c. Speaker of the Senate, Keegan Murphy

Speaker Murphy said that he congratulated all of the executive appointments, and that he appreciated President Hall including him into the meetings for transparency. He said he had been working on efficiency changes for the website. He said that there were still 3 vacant senate seats, and he was looking to fill those soon. He also said he had been working on the summer contact sheet, and working on a tentative time line of the task force President Hall mentioned earlier. He asked President Hall if there was any model on how it would affect enrollment, since it would affect the budget. He said it could be a question they bring to President Johnson at the next meeting, or if they should create a survey.

Director Rangel asked for the information she needed to give for the summer contact sheet.

President Hall said from Dr. Rodriguez's point of view, enrollment should be fine, but that a survey is a good idea.

d. Chief of Staff, Demitri Bannoura

Bannoura said he was looking for an efficient project and communication tracker with President Hall, which was especially important since everyone was meeting virtually. He also said that once all of the internship coordinators were appointed, he would like to work with them on the same communication trackers and on hiring interns. He said he would be exploring options for the summer retreat in order to decide if it would be in person or virtually. He also said that one thing he'd like to do is receive feedback in the cabinet meetings on how he could help the cabinet and departments.

Speaker Murphy said that it would be good to revamp the executive reports given at senate, in order to save time and efficiency in outreach and other things within the student body.

President Hall said that she suggested everyone would help fundraising for student aid with community officials.

Director Samuelson asked how they planned on doing the intern process.

Bannoura said they would be doing interview online at first, but everything else is tentative as of now.

Director Fullmer said he would be discussing with his assistant director and Bannoura on how to hire interns for the programming department since they are a little different.

e. Director of Clubs and Organizations, Nolan Lanza

Director Lanza said he was working on structuring his department. He said he was also trying to see how to change funding tiers and events due to COVID-19 restrictions since there are three different ways that clubs would possibly function throughout the next year. He said he was looking into having President meetings with all club leaders to see what they want from ASUN.

f. Director of Event Programming, Wes Fullmer

Director Fullmer said that he met with his advisor to brainstorm on programming expectations, hiring within the department, potential fall events, and other ways to work in programming throughout the year.

Director Lanza asked if he would know what programmers he would have for the club fair barbecue.

Director Fullmer said they would go through senate next week, but they would discuss the duties afterwards, and he would let Director Lanza know as soon as possible.

Director Fullmer said he would also like to work on liaison positions within his department as well, so if there is anyone within the cabinet that needed programmers to let him know.

Director Samuelson asked how far in advanced programming would need to know about events.

Director Fullmer said at least six weeks would be most helpful.

Speaker Murphy asked how programmers would liaison with senators.

Director Fullmer said they would help plan an event, and they are a resource on how to plan a successful event on campus, and they would have specific liaisons appointed to them.

g. Director of Legislative Affairs, Alex Rangel

Director Rangel said she was working on the hiring process and sending her nomination later this evening to President Hall and Vice President Brown. She said she was also working with other NSHE departments and Senator Doyle to work on legislative priorities the university needs.

Speaker Murphy asked when she would have any of her nominees ready or hired.

Director Rangel said she was waiting for acceptance responses today, so they would hopefully be done by this evening for next senate meeting.

h. Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Priya Bajwa

Director Bajwa said she was also working on her hiring and was hoping to finish by tomorrow evening. She said she was also working on potential events and social media ideas for them.

i. Director of Sustainability, Elizabeth Guillen

Director Guillen said she went to the committee meeting for SSW and they discussed committee goals, and the expectations they had for her. She said she would be speaking with Director Fullmer on making the department of Programming more sustainable, and working with Dr. Rodriguez on the sustainable initiative fund.

j. Director of Campus and Public Relations, Kyla Kwan

Director Kwan said she was meeting with Inkblot directors and other student publications to increase student media on resources that are provided to students during the pandemic.

Director Fullmer said centralizing the Departments within social media may be helpful.

Director Guillen asked which social media pages she wanted to focus on.

Director Kwan said Instagram was their social media focus at the moment.

Chief of Staff Bannoura said that he had the idea to highlight past interns to market the program, which may increase engagement on social media as well.

Speaker Murphy asked if they wanted to put anything on social media posted, who they should reach out to.

Director Kwan said to email her for now, and she would take the information to Inkblot to see if there is another system in place.

Director Samuelson said highlighting student senators may be a good idea.

President Hall said that it would be a good idea to do an executive student highlight as well.

k. Director of Campus Wellness, Parker Samuelson

Director Samuelson said that she did not attend the meeting, but she received the notes from the SSW committee. She said senator Luers requested more advertising for counseling services, which she would be working on.

Director Fullmer said consolidating resources for students into one location that is accessible to them for all forms of health may be useful for students.

Director Samuelson asked President Hall if that is what Vice President Brown was working on.

President Hall said she was not sure.

I. Attorney General, Paige Flippin

Attorney General said she would be reaching out to Senator Supple and Harvey to talk about what they want as Parliamentarian and Government operations. She said she would also be reaching out to the previous attorney general Moore as well.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discuss options for an official meeting day and time

President Hall wanted to open up question on if this meeting time should be kept, to find a new time for the semester, or any other points.

The time was kept until the semester ended.

B. Discussion of student concerns

President Hall said she would like to discuss and address any student concerns as an association.

Attorney General Flippin said some students are talking about being charged for Joe fees and other fees even though the classes will be online.

President Hall said that as far as she knew, President Johnson said that fee was being charged for capital expenses, and the Student Health Center is still operating. She said the gym fee was being charged because they were renting out equipment.

Vice President Brown said the only one they would be giving back to students was the performing arts fee, but they were told the reason for why each fee was continuing to be charged.

Director Samuelson asked if they could release the fee breakdown reasoning to the student body.

President Hall said she would think they would have to ask President Johnson first, but they could try to.

Vice President Brown said that something that could be done is to bring this up at the next meeting, but it may have to be released at a university level.

Chief of Staff Bannoura asked if any officials released a date of when they would determine what form classes would be offered for the fall semester.

President Hall said they were looking to open campus in the fall per the meeting last week, but thinks can obviously change continually.

Director Samuelson asked where in the process they were to getting the new president of the university.

President Hall said she though President Johnson was going to step down in July, but now would wait until December or until a new person is nominated. But the July Board or Regents meeting would have names for the new president.

Dr Rodriguez said that they would be meeting in July to speak about nominations, but President Johnson is sitting until December.

Vice President Brown said that he heard concerns from students about the CARES Act, but he received this information from D. Shannon Ellis. She said around 3,000 students requested funds, and so far a fast turnaround of 2,000 students had received the funds. The students who did not receive those funds are medical students who would receive funds from the medical school financial aid. He said that the other students was because they did not have the FAFSA completed, which is a federal requirement, but they will not lose their place in line once their FAFSA is completed. He said there was a form that required your name, NSHE ID, and print why you need funds.

Director Fullmer asked how students would be notified if they do or do not receive funds.

Vice President Brown said they receive an email right away.

Speaker Murphy asked if there was any system in place to see the students who do not need funds, to be checked.

Vice President Brown said that they divide the money into three areas. 60% of it goes to students who are already in need. 25% of funds goes to students who recently needed it, and the other 25% is for summer students. He said they do not check your financial aid, and he was unsure if there was a major system to check.

Director Samuelson asked who decided if the reason you wanted funds was legitimate.

Vice President Brown said if you provide a reason at all, you would receive the money.

C. Officers may bring up items to discuss for new business.

President Hall asked if there was anything else to talk about. She said she thought it was important to discuss what different departments would do with their funds if classes are moved to online for the next semester.

Director Lanza said he discussed with his advisor promoting community service within the clubs, so that funding would still be allocated. That way they could raise the funding tier with funds from another tier that won't be used like travel.

Director Fullmer said he was looking into Pack Provisions funding to support students with dining, groceries, toiletries, and all products. He also said, providing a relief fund through ASUN to different departments of the university.

Director Guillen asked if she wanted a back-up plan or adjustments for if the semester would be online for the fall.

President Hall said she thought it would be a good idea for alternate plans, just because things change so quickly.

Speaker Murphy said any ideas to reallocate travel money or programs and clubs and orgs that are not on campus could be used for health care students working in hospitals, or relief for others.

President Hall said using some of the funds for the emergency housing fund might be useful as well.

Director Samuelson asked Director Kwan how to make a heavily online event and process easier for her.

Director Kwan said she would continue talking to Inkblot about a system available for online events, and ways to have ASUN programs online. She said a productivity tool that Chief of Staff Bannoura mentioned would also be extremely beneficial for streamlined events and communication.

President Hall said contracts were created for Directors' accountability, and that they would need to be signed by Sunday.

Director Guillen asked where they would fine the contract.

Vice President Brown said that it was on the training documents.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Rodriguez said that the civic engagement survey has had 1,700 responses, which expanded data on food and housing insecurity. She said they are in transition with the bookstore, and all university bookstores have gotten caught off guard. She said they have been working with Barnes and Nobel and other organizations to ship a book free of charge within five days for the summer classes. She said at the directors' meeting, they may be showing up to work the week of May 18th, which would be the first phase of opening up again. It would constitute full gloves and masks, and few members going in and not during a full work week. She also said that the discussion on the fees also had to pay for the 1,000 student employees who work for student organizations. She said that the staff is all really excited that everyone is working hard as well, and that they are all on board with the restriction plans and other ways of working as student leaders. She also said Raul did some research and that all chat messages during meetings are recorded, and that some chat that has to do with the agenda items would violate Nevada Meeting Law. She asked all those who meet in committees, that they need to make a point of being transparent, and that they should start recording their meetings.

8. ADJOURNMENT

President Hall adjourned the meeting at 5:42 pm.