

89th Session of the Senate of the Associated Students

Meeting Minutes for Wednesday April 21st, 2021, at 5:30 P.M.

Zoom Meeting: Email Hope Cronan at senatesecretary@asun.unr.edu for details

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Speaker Schein called the Senate of the Associated Students to order at 5:31 pm via Zoom conference call. Presiding Secretary, Hope Cronan and Legislative Clerk, Breanna Czerlanis

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Speaker Schein, Senators Bergren, Bowling, Golish, Guevin, Keller, Kidd, Luers, Ngo, Nithyanandan, Pilks, Ramirez, Ribeiro, Rountree, Shamim, and Thompson

Absence Excused: Senator Jojan and Senator Pelayo

Tardy Excused: Senator Howell

Tardy Unexcused: Senator Beltran and Senator McNaught

A quorum was established

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

There were no minutes to adopt at the time

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

a. Director of Athletics, Doug Knuth

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

- a. Nomination, Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Kaeli Britt
- b. Nomination, Director of Event Programming, Tara Okui
- c. Nomination, Director of Clubs and Organizations, Nicolas Marimberga
- d. Nomination, Chief Presidential Aid (Chief of Staff), Benjamin Nebesky
- e. Nomination, Director of Legislative Affairs, Robert Resnik
- f. Nomination, Director of Campus and Public Relations

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7. REPORTS OF ASUN OFFICERS

- a. President of the Associated Students, Austin Brown
 - President Brown reported on discussing the fiscal year 2022 budget, hiring candidates for the President's Cabinet, and working on relationships with administration
- b. Vice President of the Associated Students, Keegan Murphy
 - Vice President Murphy discussed his role within ASUN, reported on discussing the fiscal year 2022 budget, the President's Cabinet candidates, meeting with student media, coordinating Summer Orientation for incoming freshmen, and helping Speaker Schein
- c. Chief Justice, Paulina Pride
 - There was no report at this time
- d. Chief of Staff,
- e. Director of Clubs and Organizations,
- f. Director of Event Programming,
- g. Director of Legislative Affairs,
- h. Director of Diversity and Inclusion,
- i. Director of Sustainability,
- j. Director of Campus and Public Relations,
- k. Director of Campus Wellness,
- l. Attorney General,
- m. Speaker of the Senate, Jake Schein
 - Speaker Schein reported on the attendance policy he plans to implement for senators, office access, covered Nevada Open Meeting Law, and discussed future changes for outreach

8. REPORT OF THE ASUN SENATE COMMITTEES

- a. Chair, Committee on Academics and Student Affairs – Senator Kidd
 - Senator Kidd reported the committee's first meeting of the 89th Session covering the election of Vice Chair and accountability contracts being discussed
- b. Chair, Committee on Budget and Finance – Senator Ramirez
 - Senator Ramirez reported on the committee's first meeting, announced Senator Pilks as the Vice Chair, and how the committee favorably recommended the legislation for the 2022 Fiscal Year budget
- c. Chair, Committee on Democratic Civic Engagement – Senator Ngo
 - Senator Ngo reported on the committee's first meeting of the 89th Session covering the election of Vice Chair and committee goals

Senator Howell joined the meeting at 5:40 pm

Senator Beltran joined the meeting at 5:45 pm

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Senator McNaught joined the meeting at 5:45 pm

- d. Chair, Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – Senator Beltran
 - Senator Beltran reported on the committee’s first meeting covering electing of a Vice Chair, liaison positions, and committee goals
- e. Chair, Committee on Government Operations – Senator Pelayo
 - The committee met at 4:30 pm Wednesday, April 28th and elected a Vice Chair
- f. Chair, Committee on Safety, Sustainability, and Wellness – Senator Luers
 - Senator Luers reported that the committee’s first meeting was Monday, April 26th at 4 pm where they elected a Vice Chair
- g. Speaker Pro Tempore – Senator Ribeiro
 - Senator Ribeiro reported that she planned to attend the first meeting for the President’s Cabinet to discuss her plans for the internship during public comment
- h. Parliamentarian – Senator Guevin
 - Senator Guevin reported on how he plans to take on his role as Parliamentarian and spend the first few weeks educating about Robert’s Rules, but will only plan to act if there are any pressing issues during meetings. Guevin additionally gave a brief explanation on the motion “Point of Information”
- i. Chair, Committee on Oversight – Speaker Schein
 - Speaker Schein reported on favorably recommending the nominations for President’s Cabinet

9. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no comments or announcements at this time

10. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS OF SENATORS AND ASUN OFFICIALS

- a. The following nominations were submitted to the Speaker of the Senate:
 - a. **NOMINATION OF KAELI BRITT TO THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**
 - **Motion from Senator Keller:** Motion to approve of the nominee Kaeli Britt to the Office of Director for the Department of Diversity and Inclusion
 - President Brown gave an introduction on the nominee Kaeli Britt who was then given time to present on her background and qualifications for the position. A Q&A session with the nominee was then conducted and a discussion among the body followed
 - **Vote:** 18 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained

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- **Resolved:** Motion carried. Speaker Schein swore the nominee into office
- b. **NOMINATION OF TARA OKUI TO THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EVENT PROGRAMMING**
- **Motion from Senator Kidd:** Motion to approve of the nominee Tara Okui for the Office of the Director for the Department of Event Programming
 - Vice President Murphy gave an introduction on the nominee Tara Okui who was then given time to present on her background and qualifications for the position. A Q&A session with the nominee was then conducted and a discussion among the body followed
 - **Vote:** 18 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained
 - **Resolved:** Motion carried. Speaker Schein swore the nominee into office
- c. **NOMINATION OF NICOLAS MARIMBERGA TO THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS**
- **Motion from Senator Nithyanandan:** Motion to approve of the nominee Nicolas Marimberga for the Office of the Director for the Department of Clubs and Organizations
 - Vice President Murphy gave an introduction on the nominee Nicolas Marimberga who was then given time to present on his background and qualifications for the position. A Q&A session with the nominee was then conducted and a discussion among the body followed
 - **Vote:** 17 in favor, 1 against, 0 abstained
 - **Resolved:** Motion carried. Speaker Schein swore the nominee into office
- d. **NOMINATION OF BENJAMIN NEMBSKY TO THE OFFICE OF CHIEF PRESIDENTIAL AID**
- **Motion from Senator Luers:** Motion to approve of the nominee Benjamin Nembesky for the Office of the Director for the Department of Clubs and Organizations
 - President Brown gave an introduction on the nominee Benjamin Nembesky who was then given time to present on his background and qualifications for the position. A Q&A session with the nominee was then conducted and a discussion among the body followed
 - **Vote:** 18 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained
 - **Resolved:** Motion carried. Speaker Schein swore the nominee into office
- e. **NOMINATION OF ROBERT RESNIK TO THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS**

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- **Motion from Senator Keller:** Motion to approve of the nominee Robert Resnik for the Office of the Director for the Department of Legislative Affairs
 - President Brown gave an introduction on the nominee Robert Resnik who was then given time to present on his background and qualifications for the position. A Q&A position with the nominee was then conducted and a discussion among the body followed
 - **Vote:** 18 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained
 - **Resolved:** Motion carried. Speaker Schein swore the nominee into office
- f. NOMINATION OF EMILY RHOADS TO THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS**
- **Motion from Senator Luers:** Motion to approve of the nominee Emily Rhoads for the Office of Director of Campus and Public Relations
 - President Brown gave an introduction on the nominee Emily Rhoads who was then given time to present on her background and qualifications for the position. A Q&A position with the nominee was then conducted and a discussion among the body followed
 - **Vote:** 18 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained
 - **Resolved:** Motion carried. Speaker Schein swore the nominee into office

11. VETO MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

There were no vetoed bills at the time

12. CONSENT AGENDA

There was no legislation filed for Consent Agenda

13. FIRST READING OF LEGISLATION

The following bills and resolutions will receive their first reading and may be considered under item 15 of this agenda:

- a. S.B. 89 – An Act to Approve the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022

14. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK LEGISLATION

There were no pieces to be fast-tracked at the time

15. REFERRALS TO COMMITTEE

There was no legislation to be considered for referral at the time

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16. SECOND READING OF LEGISLATION

The following bills and resolutions will receive their second reading and may be considered:

- a. S.B. 89 – An Act to Approve the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022
 - **Motion from Senator Keller:** Motion to approve of S.B. 89 – An Act to Approve the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022
 - A presentation on the legislation was given by President Brown and Vice President Murphy who explained the purpose of the legislation is to approve of the budget. President Brown then gave a memo breaking down the budget along with an explanation for each section. A Q&A period was then given along with discussion among the body
 - **Vote:** 18 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained
 - **Resolved:** Motion carried

17. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

a. Senate Committee Changes and Additions

There were no changes or additions at the time

b. Senator Reports

- Senator Kidd
 - Senator Kidd reported that she had been working on the ADA Improvements Around Campus legislation from the previous Senate session and shared an opportunity to help walk around campus to check places on campus that are not within ADA regulations

18. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Senator Ribeiro
 - Senator Ribeiro recognized the hard work President Brown and Vice President Murphy had done in order to go through the process of selecting nominees for the President's Cabinet
- b. Senator Ngo
 - Senator Ngo shared information for an event on campus in celebration of Earth Day

19. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Director, Sandra Rodriguez

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20. ADJOURNMENT

Speaker Schein adjourned the meeting at 8:34 pm via Zoom conference call

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