

Committee on Democratic Civic Engagement

Senate of the Associated Students 89th Session
Minutes for Monday, December 6th, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

ASUN President's Conference Room

(Email Olivia Ngo at senatorngo@asun.unr.edu for more information)

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Senator Ngo called the Committee on Democratic Civic Engagement to order on Monday, December 6th, 2021, at 9:03 a.m. via the Presidents Conference Room, 3rd Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union. Presiding Secretary, Wyatt Layland.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Senators Ngo, McNaught, Guevin, Jojan, Ribeiro, and Rowe.

Tardy Excused: Senators Bowling and Noble.

A quorum was present.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

a. **CSE Associate Director of Student Engagement, Amy Koeckes**

- Associate Director Koeckes discussed challenges and expectations facing the Center for Student Engagement. She outlined plans for the Spring semester and discussed various events, programs, and volunteering opportunities promoted by the Center. She also discussed the CLDE (Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement) high school outreach program and shared ways that the committee could improve their relationship with CSE during the upcoming semester.

Senator Noble entered the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

Senator Bowling entered the meeting at 9:08 a.m.

b. **ASUN Co-Director of Elections, Dawson Frost**

- Co-Director Frost delivered a debrief on Elect All the People. He expressed his appreciation for those who helped organize the event and shared some of the positive student feedback. He also gave notes on how the event could be streamlined and changed for future iterations. Co-Director Frost concluded the debrief announcing Co-Director Vaskov's receipt of a \$500 grant from Councilman Reese for Elections-related business.
- **Comment from Senator Ribeiro:** Recommended asking event participants to submit emails for outreach tracking purposes.



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

4. MINUTES

- **Motion from Senator Ribeiro:** Motion to approve the minutes from November 29th, 2021, through unanimous consent.
Seconded by: Senator Guevin.
- **Question from Senator Ngo:** Asked if there was any dissent to the motion. There was no dissent at the time.
- **Resolved:** Motion carried.

5. REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

a. Director of Legislative Affairs, Robert Resnik

- Director Resnik reported on the passing of his department's budget and discussed the Special Committee on Residential Life's plans to inspect Park Place's apartment units. He concluded his report by sharing that there was no turnout at the recent intern-held public forum.

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. Senator Reports

- Senator Bowling reported on her and Senator Ribeiro's outreach to the Office of Service Learning and Civic Engagement, which mostly consisted of a virtual meeting with an office representative. Senator Ribeiro discussed previously proposed legislation regarding the office and shared her thoughts regarding additional legislative action.
- Senator Ngo reported on her meeting with Veterans Services as well as the Thank You note she received on behalf of the department for organizing the Veterans Affairs Luncheon. The committee then discussed pursuing legislation to expand the policy excusing active-duty students from classes.
- Senator McNaught stated that he had not followed up on his outreach with the Adam Laxalt for US Senate campaign, though Senator Guevin promised they would attempt to do so after final exams.
- Senator Rowe reported on her meeting with the Vice President of Community Engagement and Government Relations, Michael Flores. They discussed how the committee can become more involved during this session.
- **Question from Senator Noble:** Asked if she inquired about the campus free speech policy.
 - **Response from Senator Rowe:** Stated that she had not discussed campus free speech due to existing policies allowing for free speech on public university campuses.
- **Comment from Director Resnik:** Invited Senator Ribeiro to accompany her next semester during his monthly check-ins with Vice President Flores.

- Senator Guevin shared Coordinator Franssen's thoughts about the recent Elect All the People event. He also stated that the committee will likely be asked to help with voter drives in the coming semester.

Senator Jojan left the meeting at 9:48 a.m.

- Senator Noble stated he does not have any updates on the Department of Legislative Affairs.

Senator Rowe left the meeting at 9:48 a.m.

- Senator Ribeiro shared that she will meet with a representative from Nevada Senator Catherine Cortez-Masto during the winter break.

Senator Bowling left the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

- Senator Noble stated that he would reach out to Director Matovina soon.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. S.R. 89 – A Resolution in Support of Legislative Priorities

- **Motion from Senator Ribeiro:** Motion to favorably recommend S.R. 89 – A Resolution in Support of Legislative Priorities.
Seconded by: Senator Noble.
- Senator Ngo delivered a presentation regarding the legislation. The bulk of the legislation consisted of legislative priorities, which Senator Ngo explained in detail.
- **Comment from Senator Ribeiro:** Stated her support of the legislation.
- **Vote:** 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained.
- **Resolved:** Motion carried.

b. Public Forum Discussion

- There was no discussion at the time.

8. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **ASUN College of Liberal Arts Senator, Vanessa Ribeiro.**
 - Senator Ribeiro strongly commended Senator Ngo for her ongoing work as chair.
- **ASUN College of Liberal Arts Senator, Olivia Ngo.**
 - Senator Ngo reminded the committee to fill out the When2Meet form for the Spring 2022 semester and wished committee members luck on their final exams.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at the time.

Committee on Democratic Civic Engagement

Monday, December 6th at 9:00 a.m.

Page 4

10. ADJOURNMENT

Senator Ngo adjourned the meeting at 9:51 a.m. via the Presidents Conference Room, 3rd Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union.