

# Convening of the 90th Session of the Senate of the Associated Students

Minutes for Wednesday, April 13th, 2022 at 5:30pm

Milt Glick Ballroom A, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union & Zoom Meeting

Email [senatesecretary@asun.unr.edu](mailto:senatesecretary@asun.unr.edu) for more information

## **1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Senate Secretary Wyatt Layland called the Senate of the Associated Students to order on Wednesday, April 13th, 2022, at 5:36pm via the Milt Glick Ballroom, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor at the Joe Crowley Student Union and via Zoom conference call. Presiding Secretary, Wyatt Layland.

## **2. OPENING CEREMONIES**

### **a. Pledge of Allegiance**

### **b. Inaugural Ceremonies**

- Associate Justice Mariano administered the Oath of Office to Vice President-Elect Bayla Fitzpatrick.
- Associate Justice Mariano administered the Oath of Office to President-Elect Dionne Stanfill.

### **c. Inaugural Addresses**

- Vice President Fitzpatrick delivered her Inaugural Address to the Association.
- President Stanfill delivered her Inaugural Address to the Association.

## **3. ASCERTAINMENT OF QUORUM**

**Present:** Senator-Elect Bergren, Senator-Elect Brown, Senator-Elect Dean, Senator-Elect Jojan, Senator-Elect Kuhl, Senator-Elect Nithyanandan, Senator-Elect Noble, Senator-Elect Ngo, Senator-Elect Perez-Ramirez, Senator-Elect Salah, Senator-Elect Cano-Sanchez, Senator-Elect Taeubel, Senator-Elect Thompson

**Absent Excused:** None.

A quorum was present.

## **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

### **a. ASUN Chief Justice, Dionne Stanfill**

- Dionne Stanfill read a letter of resignation from her position as Chief Justice.

## **5. ELECTION OF THE SPEAKER**

### **a. Nominations**

- Senator-Elect Jojan nominated the honorable Senator-Elect Noble to the Office of Speaker of the Senate.
  - Senator-Elect Noble accepted the nomination.
- Senator-Elect Bergren nominated the honorable Senator-Elect Thompson to the Office of Speaker of the Senate.
  - Senator-Elect Thompson accepted the nomination.



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[www.nevadaasun.com](http://www.nevadaasun.com).

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**b. Nominee Presentations**

- Senator-Elect Noble delivered a presentation to the body.
  - **Questions:**
    - Senator-Elect Bergren asked Senator-Elect Noble to elaborate on his plans to conduct qualitative research as part of his student outreach. Senator-Elect Noble replied that he would request summaries from each Senator regarding what they learned from their outreach hours.
    - Senator-Elect Ngo asked Senator-Elect Noble if he viewed his involvement with state politics as a conflict of interest with his involvement with the Association. Senator-Elect Noble replied that his involvement with state politics gave him the skills to enforce professionalism and robust dialogue as Speaker. He vowed to keep his own personal biases in check as Speaker.
- Senator-Elect Thompson delivered a presentation to the body.
  - **Questions:**
    - Senator-Elect Salah asked Senator-Elect Thompson how he planned to increase Senator retention in the upcoming session. Senator-Elect Thompson responded that he planned to use more foundational training and open conversations to help Senators feel safe expressing doubts and overcoming obstacles in their roles.
    - Senator-Elect Ngo asked Senator-Elect Thompson how he planned to fill in his own gaps in knowledge if he were to be elected Speaker. Senator-Elect Thompson answered that he planned to collaborate with experienced professional staff and with the Parliamentarian and Speaker Pro Tempore in order to keep up with the learning curve in his new role.
  - **Deliberations:**
    - Senator-Elect Bergren endorsed Senator-Elect Thompson on the basis of his ongoing involvement and interest in the Association, even during the height of the pandemic when participation in student affairs was difficult. She commended his consistency and transparency in each of his initiatives during his time as a senator.
    - Senator-Elect Ngo commended Senator-Elect Thompson's experience and professionalism within the Association. She also highlighted Senator-Elect Noble's relevant experience and passion for legislation. She suggested that he would be better suited to a role that would allow him to continue passing resolutions in the 90th Session.
  - **Vote:**
    - **Senator-Elect Noble:** None.
    - **Senator-Elect Thompson:** Senator-Elect Bergren, Senator-Elect Brown, Senator-Elect Dean, Senator-Elect Jojan, Senator-Elect Kuhl, Senator-Elect Nithyanandan, Senator-Elect Ngo, Senator-Elect Perez-Ramirez, Senator-Elect Salah, Senator-Elect Cano-Sanchez, Senator-Elect Taeubel.
  - **Motion Carried:** Senator-Elect Thompson was duly elected as the Speaker of the Senate for the 90th Session of the Associated Students.

**6. ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS TO SPEAKER AND SENATORS**

- a. Immediately following the election of the Speaker, the Senate Secretary shall administer the oath of office to the Speaker-elect. The Speaker shall then administer the oath of office to the Senators elect.
- The oath of office was administered to Speaker Thompson and the Senator Elects.  
*The gavel was passed to Speaker Thompson.*

- **Motion by Senator Jojan:** Motion for a 10 minute recess.  
**Second by:** Senator Bergren.
- Senator Jojan called for a previous question.  
**Second by:** Senator Bergen
- **Vote:** 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained.
- **Motion:** Carried

The Senate reconvened at 7:02pm.

### **ASCERTAINMENT OF QUORUM**

**Present:** Speaker Thompsom, Senator Bergren, Senator Brown, Senator Dean, Senator Jojan, Senator Kuhl, Senator Nithyanandan, Senator Noble, Senator Ngo, Senator Perez-Ramirez, Senator Salah, Senator Cano-Sanchez, and Senator Taeubel.

## **7. ELECTION OF THE SENATE OFFICERS**

### **a. Speaker Pro Tempore**

- Senator Taeubel nominated the honorable Senator Ngo to the office of Speaker Pro-Tempore.
  - Senator Ngo accepted the nomination.
- Senator Ngo presented to the body
  - Senator Bergen asked how she would ensure a productive internship.
    - Senator Ngo explained her idea for the internship changes which included documentation of connections, legislation, and have senators take their interns to outreach opportunities with them.
  - Senator Jojan asked how she would make the internship experience better.
    - Senator Ngo explained she would promote it much more so that the internship would be full and work with the Chief of Staff in the internship.
  - Senator Noble asked her to describe the process to make NV Box more accessible.
    - Senator Ngo stated the senator would be encouraged to update their progress on legislation or events into box folders so that in the future senators had access to all the information that would be needed.
  - The body deliberated on the nominee.
  - **Vote:** 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained.

### **b. Parliamentarian**

- Senator Ngo nominated the Honorable Senator Taeubel to the office of Parliamentarian.
  - Senator Taeubel accepted the nomination.
- Senator Taeubel presented the body.
  - Senator Jojan asked what his plans were for the beginning of the session.
    - Senator Taeubel stated he wanted to give a presentation to everyone on parliamentary procedure during training and give resources to senators so they feel comfortable to talk during the discussions.
  - Senator Ngo asked where his interest in Robert's Rules started.
    - Senator Taeubel stated it started during the ASUN internship which he wanted to intern for the past Parliamentarian.
  - The body deliberated on the nominee.
  - **Vote:** 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained.

## **8. CEREMONIAL RESOLUTIONS**

### **a. Committee to Notify the President**

- Parliamentarian Taeubel offered the privileged resolution authorizing the Senate Secretary to notify the President of the election of the Speaker of the Senate and requested its immediate consideration.

### **b. Notifying the President of the Election of the Speaker**

- **Motion by Senator Ngo:** Motion to approve the privileged resolution authorizing the secretary to notify the president of the selection of the Senate and ask for its immediate consideration.

**Second by:** Senator Noble

- No discussion.
- **Vote:** 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained.

## **9. ADOPTION OF THE RULES OF THE SENATE**

### **a. The Senate shall consider a resolution to adopt Rules of the Senate, pursuant to Art. II, sec. 2(c) of the Constitution of the Associated Students**

- **Motion from Senator Jojan:** Motion to Adopt the Rules of the Senate.
  - **Seconded by:** Senator Landolfi.

- There was no discussion at the time.
- **Vote:** 11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained.

## **10. DISPOSITION OF VACANT SEATS**

- Two vacant seats for the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources.
- Three vacant seats for the College of Business.
- One vacant seat for the College of Education.
- Two vacant seats for the College of Engineering.
- One vacant seat for the College of Liberal Arts.
- One vacant seat for the School of Medicine and Nursing.
- One vacant seat for the College of Science.
- One vacant seat for the College of Community Health Services/ Public Health.
- One vacant seat for the College of Journalism.

## **11. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND SENATORS TO COMMITTEES**

### **a. Motion from Senator Ngo:** Motioned to postpone the selection of Committee Chairs and the adjoining committees to the following Senate meeting.

- **Seconded by:** Senator Noble.
- Senator Ngo explained the motion and its intent.
- **Vote:** 11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained.
- **Motion carried.**

**12. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS AUTHORIZED UNDER SAS**

There were no petitions.

**13. RECEIPT OF PETITIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE TO THE SENATE AND REFERRAL**

There were no receipts of petition or correspondence.

**14. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no comments or announcements at the time.

**15. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at the time.

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

Speaker Thompson adjourned the meeting at 7:40 via the Milt Glick Ballroom, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor at the Joe Crowley Student Union and via Zoom conference call.