Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada

89th Session, 2021-2022

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ALLOWING STUDENTS A VOTE ON THE UNIVERSITY FIELD HOUSE PROJECT

Resolution Number: 157

Authored By: Senator Kidd and Senator Nithyanandan on behalf of Vice President Murphy

Sponsored By: The Committee on Academics and Student Affairs

Whereas, the University of Nevada, Reno has numerous options for students to get involved on campus, such as clubs and organizations, varsity, intramural, and recreation sports, etc.;

Whereas, Merriam-Webster defines a student as "one who attends school" and does not specify a student by their personal affiliations on campus;[1]

Whereas, according to the Cambridge Dictionary, a field house is known as a building, especially in a University, where sporting events can be held inside and there is equipment that can be used for exercising;[2]

Whereas, the University of Nevada, Reno does not currently have a field house on their campus;

Whereas, the University of Nevada, Reno finds it fit that a field house be designed and constructed on campus to allow indoor recreation and sporting activities taking place during times of inclement weather;

Whereas, the development and construction of a field house would be beneficial for the health of our University population, both physical and mental;

Whereas, a new field house would not only be focused on our varsity athletic teams, like many people associate it with, but will also serve as a physical health and wellness center for all stakeholders;

[1] https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/student
[2] https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/field-house

Whereas, new and improved facilities are linked to improving students' grades, increasing student retention, and academic performance;[3]

Whereas, students will ideally have access to this field house during certain periods of the day /night, which will increase the number of opportunities for University stakeholders regarding physical fitness;

Whereas, building a new field house could open potential in the athletics and recreation departments for a regulation track, increased court choices, indoor turf, and many other options not currently offered at our Division 1 University;

Whereas, adding a field house to the list of buildings the University has to offer puts us at equal opportunity with fellow Mountain West Division schools who already offer one, increasing recruitment and retention of student athletes and those who play club sports;

Whereas, Hastings+Chivetta and H+K Architects have presented us (ASUN) with multiple design options and different areas of focus that can be implemented into a new field house;

Whereas, three site locations were proposed for the building of the field house, one in between our intramural fields and stadium, one by Ponderosa Village parking, and one behind the baseball field where Enterprise Road meets Evans Ave;

Whereas, the design, construction, and operation of this facility is a joint decision across multiple departments on campus such as athletics, administrations, undergraduate students, graduate students, and more;

Whereas, the proposed funding plan will be split into thirds, one-third covered by Athletics, one-third covered by the University, and one-third covered by student fees;

Whereas, once this project gets proposed, the 90th Session of the ASUN Senate will have the option to allow students to vote on the matter;

Whereas, if the majority of students vote for the development of the fieldhouse and fee that would come along with it, University President, the Executive Vice President, and the Provost will send it to the Board of Regents for final approval;

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[3] https://onlinemasters.ohio.edu/blog/benefits-of-expanding-college-athletic-facilities/

Whereas, if the fee is approved at the Board of Regents meeting, it will be implemented into student tuition;

Whereas, the other two-thirds of funding coming from Athletics and the University are mainly coming from donors and philanthropic efforts;

Whereas, this field house is being planned with the intent of sustaining it for years to come so future generations can continue to benefit from it;

Whereas, the potential sustainability scope of this field house would connect with the University's Strategic Plan draft: Finding our True North, Goal 5: Make Silver and Blue the New Green;

Whereas, there is no final decision on the topics of architecture or fee cost yet;

Whereas, the finalized costs of the project are expected to be estimated by July 2022;

Whereas, students in the past have supported fees for the development of buildings and services on campus and should have the decision to support this fee or not on their own;

Whereas, students pay fees for some of our very well-known and respected buildings and services on campus such as the PSAC[4], the current fitness center[5], the Joe Crowley Student Union, counseling services, health center, performing arts, and more;[6]

Whereas, other buildings on campus, such as the Pennington Student Achievement Center, was built with the intention of creating a space for academic and mental health focus, as it includes the Tutoring Center, Disability Resource Center, Counseling Services, and much more;

Whereas, an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) is an agreement in document form between 2 or more parties that outlines the intent of the project;[7]

Whereas, an MOU was created for the ASUN Sala Sports Complex/ Athletic Practice fields and is used every year and can be seen in Addendum A;

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[4] https://www.rgj.com/story/news/education/2015/12/10/unrs-newest-building-includes-cool-features/77066826/
[5] https://www.unr.edu/nevada-today/news/2013/student-fitness-fee
[6] https://www.unr.edu/tuition-and-fees
[7] https://www.uaf.edu/mou-moa/step-by-step-process/

Whereas, an MOU has been drafted for the proposed field house and while it is still a draft, it is subject to change and will be published once finalized;

Whereas, to maintain transparency and opportunity to students, the Senate of the Associated Students should upkeep any discussion on the development of the field house and write legislation in the 90th Session regarding the fee once details are finalized;

Whereas, paying this fee would be beneficial for the future generations that attend this University just as past generations did for us;

Be it resolved that, the Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada be in support of the construction of a University field house to be a shared space for the University community;

Be it further resolved that, the Senate of the Associated Students strongly recommends that the 90th Senate Session allow the student body to vote on this matter through a special referendum;

Be it further resolved that, a copy of this legislation be sent to the following:

- ASUN Speaker of the 90th Senate Session
- ASUN President of the 90th Session
- ASUN Vice President of the 90th Session
- UNR President, Brian Sandoval
- UNR Vice President of Student Services, Shannon Ellis
- UNR Vice President of Budget & Administration, Vic Redding
- UNR Associate Vice President for Planning, Budget, & Analysis, Shawn Norman
- Doug Knuth, Athletic Director
- H+K Architects
- Hastings & Chivetta Architects
- Members of the University Field House Working Group:
    - Romando Nash, Associate Vice President for Student Life Services
    - Sheena Harvey, Director of Fitness and Recreational Sports
    - Keegan Murphy, ASUN Vice President
    - Taissa Lytchenko, Vice President of Internal Affairs, College of Science
    - Veronika Zepeda, Director of Graduate Student Services
    - Sandra Rodriguez, Director, ASUN Center for Student Engagement
    - Ben Iness, Vice President of External Affairs, Council Members, School of Social Work

- Craig Fink, Senior Associate AD, Development and External

Adopted in Senate on March 30th, 2022

Attest:

Wyatt Layland, Senate Secretary

Jake Schein, Speaker of the Senate

Addendum A

Finalized 08/13/2003

RECEIVED
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President's Office

WOLF PACK PARK

ASUN Sala Sports Complex/ Athletic Practice Fields

Agreement:

1. The ASUN Sala Intramural Fields will be scheduled and programmed by The Campus Recreation Department for the Associated Students of the University of Nevada, (ASUN). If for any reason Campus Recreation is unable to fulfill their responsibilities, all rights of scheduling and programming will revert to ASUN.

2. Athletic Practice Fields will be scheduled by Intercollegiate Athletics with Campus Recreation having scheduling priorities once athletic schedules are set. Campus Recreation will schedule the facility after 6:00 p.m. weekdays and on weekends when not scheduled by Intercollegiate Athletics. Intercollegiate Athletics will coordinate use of the Athletic Practice Fields outside the initial agreement through Campus Recreation.

3. The Assistant Athletic Director for Sports Services and the Director of Campus Recreation will meet each semester to coordinate schedules and access for the upcoming semester. Once schedules are established any changes and additional requests will be coordinated through Campus Recreation for the semester.

4. The ASUN Sala Intramural Fields will be available to Intercollegiate Athletics for preseason Soccer and Football practices and summer camps. The preseason practices will be the month of August with camps being held in June. ASUN reserves the right to schedule summer camps and community events once athletic schedules are set. These dates will be confirmed at the semester meetings.

5. Intercollegiate Athletics use of the ASUN Sala Intramural fields will be confirmed at the semester meetings. Intercollegiate Athletics will be given use of the north intramural field IM #3 until 4:15 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday on dates requested at semester meetings. Any changes to this schedule will require the joint agreement of Intercollegiate Athletics and the ASUN.

6. Campus Recreation will put up some form of barrier delineating Intercollegiate Athletic activities from Intramural fields during shared times.

7. All Wolf Pack Park Signage will contain both ASUN and Athletic Department Logos.

** Please sign and date:

President of University: _____ 1-31-04

Director of Athletics: _____ 1/21/04

President of ASUN: _____ 1/21/04