

# 90<sup>th</sup> Session of the Senate of the Associated Students

Minutes for Wednesday, April 20th, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

Rita Laden Senate Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Joe Crowley Student Union, & Zoom Conference Call  
Email [senatesecretary@asun.unr.edu](mailto:senatesecretary@asun.unr.edu) for more information.

## 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Speaker Thompson called the Senate of the Associated Students to order on Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 5:35 p.m. via the Rita Laden Senate Chambers, Third Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union, and via Zoom Conference Call. Presiding Secretary, Wyatt Layland.

## 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

## 3. ROLL CALL

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

A quorum was present.

## 4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

No minutes were approved at the time.

## 5. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Ashley Martinez, Assistant Director of Legislative Affairs
  - Ashley resigned from her position and showed support for S.B. 90- A BILL TO CREATE THE CHIEF OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS.
- b. Amanda Vaskov, Co-Director of Elections
  - Amanda resigned from her position.
- c. Carlos Lara, Policy Director of the department of Legislative Affairs
  - Carlos resigned from his position.
- d. Boris Carpio Guerra, Commissioner for Clubs and Organizations.
  - Boris resigned from his position.

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

- a. Nominations, Chief of Staff, Ashley Martinez
- b. Nominations, Attorney General, Jakob Schein
- c. Nominations, Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Trace Wolfgang
- d. Nominations, Director of Government Affairs, Amanda Vaskov
- e. Nominations, Director of Wellness, Boris Carpio Guerra
- f. Nominations, Director of Campus and Public Relations, Carlos Lara

## 7. REPORTS OF ASUN OFFICERS

- a. President, Dionne Stanfill
  - President Stanfill reported on her meeting which included students, professional staff,



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administration, interviews for her cabinet members. She also reported on her work with the budget, S.B. 90- A BILL TO CREATE THE CHIEF OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS and she canceled the Undie Run.

- Senator Nithyanandan asked why she fired 5 members of president cabinet.
  - President Stanfill stated she did not know about the events and those events can still happen. She explained that the individual did not help the association.
- Senator Jojan thanked President Stanfill for her leadership about the Undie Run.
- b. Vice President, Bayla Fitzpatrick
  - Vice President Fitzpatrick reported on her meeting which included Wolf Pack Internship Grant, Athletics, Greek-Life and more.
- c. Chief Justice, Maddie Marino
  - Chief Justice Marino read into record Judicial cases.
- d. Director of Legislative Affairs, Robert Resnick
  - Director Resnick reported on the support of the department and legislation.
- e. Director of Sustainability, Liz Guillen
  - Director Guillen reported on the success of Earth Week.
- f. Director of Clubs and Organizations, Nick Marimberga
  - Director Marimberga reported on the success of the Club Banquet.
- g. Director of Programming, Tara Okui
  - Director Okui reported on BLF and the start of sales.
- h. Senate Secretary, Wyatt Layland
  - Senate Secretary Layland congratulated everyone on a successful convening and read into record veto memos from former President Brown.
    - Senator Jojan asked about line item 12 that had no vetoes.
      - Senate Secretary Layland stated they cannot act on the vetoes.
- i. Legislative Clerk, Bre Czerlanis
  - Legislative Clerk Czerlanis reminded senators that she could help them with any issues of legislation.
- j. Speaker of the Senate, Andrew Thompson
  - Speaker Thompson reported on training and important information that would be sent to the senators.

## **8. REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEES**

- a. **Parliamentarian, Brayden Taeubel**
  - Parliamentarian Taeubel reported on the training for senators.
- b. **Speaker Pro Tempore, Olivia Ngo**
  - Senator Ngo reported on meeting with Student Media Advisory Board to select a new editor of Brushfire. She also discussed events and outreach opportunities.

## **9. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no comments or announcements at this time.

## **10. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK APPOINTMENTS**

- a. **Nomination; Chief of Staff, Ashley Martinez; Attorney General, Jakob Schein; Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Trace Wolfgang; Director of Government Affairs, Amanda Vaskov; Director of Wellness, Boris Carpio Guerra; Director of Campus and Public Relations, Carlos Lara**

- **Motion by Senator Noble:** Motion to fast-track all the appointments above.

**Second by:** Senator Ngo

- Speaker Thompson asked if there was any dissent to the motion. There was no dissent at the time.

- **Resolved:** Motion carried
- **Motion by Senator Ngo:** Motion to recess until 6:08 pm.

**Second by:** Parliamentarian Taubel

- **Vote:** 13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained
- **Motion:** Carried
- The meeting reconvened at 6:09.
- ROLL CALL
  - **Present:** Speaker Thompson and Senators Bergren, Brown, Cano-Sanchez, Dean, Jojan, Kuhl, Nithyanandan, Noble, Ngo Perez-Ramirez, Salah, and Taubel.

A quorum was present.

## **11. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS OF SENATORS AND ASUN OFFICIALS**

a. Nomination, Chief of Staff, Ashley Martinez

- **Motion by Senator Ngo:** Motion to approve the Nomination, Chief of Staff, Ashley Martinez

**Seconded by:** Senator Bergren

- President Stanfill presented the nominee.
- Ashley Martinez delivered a presentation.
  - Senator Bergren asked how she would push her schedule during the middle of the session when people are burned out.
    - Ashley stated she would focus on community building.
  - Senator Nithyanandan asked about makeup retreat.
    - Ashley stated there would be the traditional make up retreat online but also have a in person training day for anyone who missed it.
  - Senator Ngo asked how she would balance her personal and work relationships with President Stanfill and Vice President Fitzpatrick.
    - Ashley stated she continued to remember she was in the position to serve the student and she wanted to implement ways of accountability to keep those relationships secretary.
  - Senator Jojan asked about advocacy in the association.
    - Ashley stated it would be a event similar as statewide protest at the legislature and she would always help Legislative affairs. For town halls it would be topics that are the most prevalent to students.
  - Senator Noble asked about her plans for the fundraiser for the John Mackey Endowment Fund.
    - Ashley stated she did have plans which were in her portfolio. Those events would be poll working and the Nevada Excellence Gala.

- Senator Cano-Sanchez asked about her thoughts of off campus organizations and their role.
  - Ashley stated there were pre-established relationships and work with them more.
- The body deliberated on the appointment.
- **Vote:** 13 yes, 0 against, 0 abstained

*The oath of office was administered to Ashley Martinez.*

**b. Nominations, Attorney General, Jakob Schein**

- **Motion by Senator Noble:** Motion to approve the Nominations, Attorney General, Jakob Schein.

**Seconded by:** Senator Ngo

- President Stanfill presented the nominee.
- Jakob Schein delivered a presentation.
  - Senator Bergen asked how he would hold himself accountable and how he was going to set up the association for success.
    - Jakob stated as attorney general he can only give an opinion if the senators decide to ignore it there is nothing he can do and to set up for success he would just help, he would like to be a resource for everyone.
  - Senator Noble asked if he would intend to carry out his job duties consistently.
    - Jakob stated for opinion he was very comfortable with research and the process to write papers and for consistency he would focus highly on transparency.
  - Senator Jojan asked for his training to be able to teach others on Nevada Open Meeting Laws.
    - Jakob explained his experience with Nevada Open Meeting Law.
  - Senator Jojan asked if there would be transparency with charge sheets.
    - Jakob stated yes.
  - Senator Ngo asked how he would reformat the SAS.
    - Jakob stated the SAS just needed to be re-formatted to have a standard.
- The body deliberated on the appointment.
- **Vote:** 13 yes, 0 against, 0 abstained

*The oath of office was administered to Jakob Schein*

**c. Nominations, Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Trace Wolfgang**

- **Motion by Senator Jojan:** Motion to approve the Nominations, Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Trace Wolfgang.

**Seconded by:** Parliamentarian Taeubel

- President Stanfill presented the nominee.
- Trace Wolfgang delivered a presentation.
  - Senator Jojan asked about their specific goals to push for inclusivity.
    - Trace stated every department works with students and some of his goals are legislation in support of legal aid for HSI identifying students and at risk students.
  - Senator Jojan asked about the change of physical posted agenda and minutes binding.
    - Trace stated if someone was no able body those physical posted agendas would be very hard and the company that the association used to bind minutes outsourced their work to prisons. They believed the association should not support those

- companies.
  - Senator Noble asked how they would address religious minorities.
    - Trace stated they would want to create spaces for students to privately pray and educate themselves to be able to help those groups.
  - Senator Cano-Sanchez asked what their plans were for recruitment and retention.
    - Trace stated met with Dr. Morgan Warrant to discuss how they can help and push legislation.
  - Senator Ngo suggested they should find a passionate person to work with Government Affairs because of the legislative terms.
    - The body deliberated on the appointment.
  - **Vote:** 13 yes, 0 against, 0 abstained
- The oath of office was administered to Trace Wolfgang  
The gavel was given to Speaker Pro-Tempore Ngo*
- d. Nominations, Director of Government Affairs, Amanda Vaskov
- **Motion by Senator Noble:** Motion to approve the Director of Government Affairs, Amanda Vaskov.  
**Seconded by:** Senator Cano-Sanchez
  - President Stanfill presented the nominee.
  - Amanda Vaskov delivered a presentation.
    - Senator Noble asked what role the senate had in advocacy.
      - Amanda stated the department and committees would have constant communication and they can always work together with outreach to politicians.
    - Senator Noble asked how she would create a plan that would continue after their terms were finished.
      - Amanda stated the biggest element would be the hope that the next director had the same ideas and there was already a lot of legislation that they sponsored that were being worked on,
    - Senator Ngo asked if there were certain legislators that she would like to have a relationship with.
      - Amanda stated her relationship with legislators would be based on what legislation she wanted to see.
    - Senator Jojan asked what other avenues for students to participate in.
      - Amanda stated she would love to civic engagement events to push students to engage and show the department the issues students had.
    - Senator Jojan asked how she would get senators engaged with legislation.
      - Amanda stated if there should be Senate legislation then she would reach out to senators to sponsor that.
  - The body deliberated on the appointment.
  - **Vote:** 13 yes, 0 against, 0 abstained
- The oath of office was administered to Amanda Vaskov*
- e. Nominations, Director of Wellness, Boris Carpio Guerra
- **Motion by Senator Ngo:** Motion to approve the Nominations, Director of Wellness, Boris Carpio Guerra  
**Seconded by:** Senator Kuhl

- President Stanfill presented the nominee.
  - Boris Carpio Guerra delivered a presentation.
    - Senator Ngo asked how he would collaborate with the committee of Safety, Sustainability, and Wellness
      - Boris stated he would sit down with the committee to discuss their goals and find a middle ground to work together.
    - Senator Bergen asked about the fees for an STI test at the student health center.
      - Boris stated his plan was to meet with them to discuss the fee and figure out the logistics.
    - Senator Noble asked what experience he had to be qualified for the position.
      - Boris stated his experience of advocacy gave him a different perspective and it was a obstacle that he was excited to learn about.
  - The body deliberated on the appointment.
  - **Vote:** 13 yes, 0 against, 0 abstained
- The oath of office was administered to Boris Carpio Guerra*
- f. Nominations, Director of Campus and Public Relations, Carlos Lara
- **Motion by Senator Nithyanandan:** Motion to approve the Nominations, Director of Campus and Public Relations, Carlos Lara.

**Seconded by:** Senator Kuhl

- President Stanfill presented the nominee.
- Carlos Lara delivered a presentation.
  - Senator Ngo asked for an elaboration of his strategies to work with Inkblot.
    - Carlos stated to understand inkblot and have better communication he wanted them to present to everyone.
  - Senator Jojan asked what other avenues of communication he had.
    - Carlos stated social media was important, but they should table and meet with clubs.
- The body deliberated on the appointment.
- **Vote:** 13 yes, 0 against, 0 abstained

*The oath of office was administered to Jakob Schein*

## **12. VETO MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT**

There were no veto messages at the time.

## **13. CONSENT AGENDA**

There were no items on the consent agenda at the time.

## **14. FIRST READING OF LEGISLATION**

- S.B.R. 90- A BINDING RESOLUTION TO TEMPORARILY SUSPEND SENATE RULE IX.A.1
- S.B. 90- A BILL TO CREATE THE CHIEF OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

## **15. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK LEGISLATION**

- **Motion from Senator Ngo:** Motion to fast-track S.B.R. 90- A BINDING RESOLUTION TO TEMPORARILY SUSPEND SENATE RULE IX.A.1, through unanimous consent.  
**Seconded by:** Senator Noble

a. **Question from Speaker Thompson:** Asked if there was any dissent to the motion. There was no dissent at the time.

- **Resolved:** Motion carried.

- **Motion from Senator Nithyanandan:** Motion to fast-track S.B. 90- A BILL TO CREATE THE CHIEF OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS, through unanimous consent.  
**Seconded by:** Senator Noble

a. **Question from Speaker Thompson:** Asked if there was any dissent to the motion. There was no dissent at the time.

- **Resolved:** Motion carried.

## **16. REFERRALS TO COMMITTEE**

There were no referrals to committees.

## **17. SECOND READING OF LEGISLATION**

- **S.B.R. 90- A BINDING RESOLUTION TO TEMPORARILY SUSPEND SENATE RULE IX.A.1**

*Gavel was given to Speaker Pro Tempore Ngo*

- **Motion from Senator Speaker Thompson:** Motion to approve S.B.R. 90- A BINDING RESOLUTION TO TEMPORARILY SUSPEND SENATE RULE IX.A.1

**Seconded by:** Senator Bergen

- Speaker Thompson presented the legislation.
- **Vote:** 13 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained.
- **Resolved:** Motion carried.

*Gavel was given to Speaker Thompson*

- **S.B. 90- A BILL TO CREATE THE CHIEF OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS**

- **Motion from Senator Nithyanandan:** Motion to approve S.B.R. 90- A BINDING RESOLUTION TO TEMPORARILY SUSPEND SENATE RULE IX.A.1

**Seconded by:** Senator Ngo

- Parliamentarian Taeubel presented the legislation.
  - Senator Bergen asked if the job of Chief of Staff was split then give that person the salary of Chief of Staff and how would it be productive.
    - President Stanfill stated the past Chief of Staff explain how massive the workload for chief of staff was and it was not fair for one student to have that much responsibility. Instead of an increase in salary the split of job duties allows the positions to grow. She was also ready to add the new position to the budget.
  - Senator Ngo asked if their payment would start at that moment or the new fiscal year.

- President Stanfill stated the pay would start that semester and there was enough fund for an extra wage.
- Attorney General Schein read into the record an opinion of Chief of Staff Samuelson in support of the legislation. He also explained the specifics of the role.
- Senator Nobles showed his support of a committee instead of a new position.
- Attorney General Schein stated there was committee before, but the issue was that all the duties of the chief Justice spread the person out to thin. Splitting roles makes it easier for the roles to grow and events would be better.
- President Stanfill discussed her discussion with Vice President Bradley.
- Senator Bergen stated their discussion brought a new point of view but a whole new job would not be productive enough for the salary.
  - President Stanfill stated the duties were strong and enough for a salary and it their expectations were very high for the position.
- Senator Ngo asked if absences would be under Chief of Internal Affairs.
  - Attorney General Schein stated yes but any training would be a collaboration.
- Senator Ngo asked if there were statistics of retention for the job and legacy.
  - President Stanfill stated since the chief of internal affairs would liaison to programmers it would create a relationship between the departments. It would help create a bigger and better programs and events.
- Senator Noble expressed his opinions on the legislation.
- Attorney General Affairs explained the comparison of Chief of Internal Affairs and Speaker Pro Tempore that Senator Noble discussed in his opinions. He also explained that for Welcome Week Events it would be much easier to have this position to help.
- **Motion by Senator Noble:** Motion to allow Vice President Fitzpatrick to speak, through unanimous consent.
  - **Second by:** Senator
    - Vice President Fitzpatrick stated the expectations of the roles are not the same which granted the change. She explained the changes with the internship, the Mackey Endowment Fund, and the events would not just be internal but for the students put on by internal departments who would need to be advised on programming. That advice would be part of Chief of Internal Affairs job duties.
    - President Stanfill reminded everyone that Chief of Staff Martinez supported the legislations and explained the history of the job duties and its expectation.
    - Senator Kuhl asked about the time commitment that the role would have.
      - President Stanfill stated did not have an exact number.
    - Senator Bergen asked if it might be a best idea to send the legislation to a committee.
      - President Stanfill stated yes but the budget had to be submitted by Thursday March 27th.
    - Senator Cano-Sanchez asked if they could temporarily create the job.
      - President Stanfill stated they could, but it would be unethical since the expectation of events would be changed.
    - Senator Jojan stated it would be more productive if they sent the legislation to committee.
    - Attorney General Schein stated if they send it to committee the earliest date for the committee meeting would be Monday May 2<sup>nd</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup>. It would be back on the Senate table about May 11<sup>th</sup>. There would be time sensitivity since there was retreat and internship plans that needed to be done.
    - President Stanfill stated they could not increase the pay so it would be the best to pass the legislation.
    - Senator Ngo asked if they could postpone the legislation until the meeting on the April 27<sup>th</sup>.



- Senator Noble expressed the decent against the tabling of the legislation or to have it sent to committee.
- **Vote:** 12 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstained.
- **Resolved:** Motion carried.

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**18. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

- **Senate Committee**
  
- **Senator Reports**
  - Senator Nithyanandan stated the Pennington Student Achievement Center would be open 24-hour during finals week.
  
- **Presentation**

**19. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Senator Ngo reminded senators to continue to be engaged even if they are long meetings.
- Speaker Thompson stated there would not be mandatory outreach.

**20. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Director of CSE, Sandra Rodriguez
  - Director Rodriguez stated her staff would not have more workload and the conversation senators had was great.

**21. ADJOURNMENT**

Speaker Thompson adjourned the meeting at 9:19 p.m. via the Rita Laden Senate Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union, and via Zoom Conference Call.