

90th Session of the Senate of the Associated Students

Minutes for Wednesday, May 11th, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

Rita Laden Senate Chambers, 3rd Floor Joe Crowley Student Union, & Zoom Conference Call
Email 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, May 11, 2022, at 5:33 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, Parliamentarian Taubel, and Senators Bergren, Brown, Bryan, Cano-Sanchez, Claussen, Dean, Fiorillo, Gonzalez, Greb, Kane, Kermanshahi, Kuhl McCulley, Noble, Ngo Perez-Ramirez, Salah, Smith, Swackhamer and Taglang.

Absent Excused: Senator Galvez, Jojan, Nithyanandan, Perez-Ramirez, Smith

A quorum was present.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

No minutes were approved at the time.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at the time.

6. ADMINISTRATION OF OATH TO SENATORS (INFORMATION ONLY)

- Speaker Thompson administered the Oath to Senator Fiorillo

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

There was no receipt of petitions or correspondence at the time.

8. REPORTS OF ASUN OFFICERS

a. **President of the Associated Students, Dionne Stanfill**

- President Stanfill thanked everyone who participated in the can drive on Dead Day, she explained the Pack Provision program. She reported on a trip to Nevada capitol, an awards ceremony, Democratic Civic Engagement Breakfast, Board of Regents, and the Budget. She explained all her meeting. She reminded senators to put a request for name tags and business cards.
 - Senator Ngo asked about the Board of Regent meetings.
 - President Stanfill stated the meeting was to introduce themselves.



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If you would like a copy of any of the agenda items listed, please contact the Senate Secretary at senatesecretary@asun.unr.edu

b. Vice President of the Associated Students, Bayla Fitzpatrick

- Vice President Fitzpatrick reported on her meeting which included: orientations and NV fit plan, Nevada Pride plan, Pack Internship Grant, Brian Sandoval, Field House updates,
 - Senator Salah asked what the ASUN involvement with NV Fit would be.
 - Vice President Fitzpatrick stated she gave a speech, a breakout room, and late night event.
 - Senator Noble asked the price of Field House.
 - Senator Fitzpatrick stated between 50 million to 60 million.

c. Chief Justice, Zane Taylor

- Chief Justice Taylor reported on his plans over the summer and his interviews for associate justices. He also attended Biggest Little Festival. He also read into record the Judicial decisions.

d. Chief of Staff, Ashley Martinez

- Chief of Staff Martinez reported on her many projects which included: commencement photo opportunity, can food drive, Democratic Civic Engagement Breakfast, and internship program.

e. Chief of Internal Affairs, Jada Maglinao

- Chief of Internal Affairs Maglinao reported on her plans to retreat and help conduct interviews.
 - Senator Kermanshahi asked if they could provide their own transportation.
 - Chief of Internal Affairs Maglinao stated no but to email her if there was an issue.

f. Director of Clubs and Organizations, Tre Taylor

- Director Taylor reported on club renewal, interviews, and club funding manual changes.

g. Director of Event Programming, Maria Zamudio

- Director Zamudio reported on priority booking, interviews, and BLF debriefing meeting.
 - Senator Gonzalez asked if she had a calendar of events.
 - Director Zamudio said yes.

h. Director of Government Affairs, Amanda Vaskov

- Director Vaskov reported on her meeting which included: Director Rodriguez, Jennifer Lowman to work on a climate survey, interviews, campus administration, Assemblywoman Selena Torres, Democratic Civic Engagement Breakfast, NSHE.
 - Senator Ngo asked for details of their goals for the Nevada Legislature.
 - Director Vaskov stated yes, they discussed their bounds, limitations, and what legislation they want to support.

i. Director of IDEA, Trace Wolfgang

- Director Wolfgang reported on their interviews, all their participation in and outside the association, and some projects like, change name of department to IDEA.

j. Director of Sustainability, Chris Rowe

- Director Rowe reported on interviews for his department, he attended the Dead Day sacrifice and Nevada Capitol.

k. Director of Campus and Public Relations, Carlos Lara

- Director Lara reported on his projects of promotions. He also attended the Democratic breakfast and cabinet training.

l. Director of Campus Wellness, Boris Carpio-Guerra

- Director Carpio-Guerra reported on his meeting which included: Student Health Center and interviews.
 - Senator Kermanshahi asked about vouchers to another clinic.
 - Director Carpio Guerra stated no, the meeting was just to understand what the health Center offers.

m. Attorney General, Jakob Schein

- Attorney General Schein reported on the charges made against senators' campaigns, attorney general opinions, online posted agendas, and much legislation. He asked how they would want him to revise the legal documents. He said his thought process would be to work title by title.
 - Senator Salah expressed her agreement.
 - Senator Noble stated since some titles mention other titles and there might be some contradiction, but it would be more organized in that process.
- Attorney General Schein stated if the senators want to ask public a question they can ask.

n. Secretary of the Senate, Wyatt Layland

- Senate Secretary Layland congratulated the chairs of committees on their first meeting.

o. Legislative Clerk, Bre Czerlanis

- Legislative Clerk Czerlanis reported on her exit work since she graduated.

p. Speaker of the Senate, Andrew Thompson

- Speaker Thompson stated he attended all the committee meetings and if there are attendance issues over the summer to let him know as early as possible.

9. REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEES

a. Chair, Committee on Academics and Student Affairs, Nivetha Nithyanandan

- Senator Nithyanandan reported on the committee's meeting, the Vice Chair was Senator Kane.

b. Chair, Committee on Budget and Finance, Nathan Noble

- Senator Noble reported on the committee's first meeting, the Vice Chair was Senator Greb. The committee would meet until the fiscal budget gets approved. The committee also discussed Senator wages.

c. Chair, Committee on Democratic Civic Engagement, Kimberly Claussen

- Senator Claussen reported on the first committee meeting, the Vice Chair was Senator Ngo. She also explains the committee's expectations and plans.

d. Chair, Committee on IDEA, Jaime Gonzalez

- Senator Gonzalez reported on the first committee meeting, the Vice Chair was Senator Cano Sanchez.

e. Chair, Committee on Government Operations, Fayza Salah

- Senator Salah reported on the first committee meeting, the vice chair was Parliamentarian Taeubel.

f. Chair, Committee on Safety, Sustainability, and Wellness, Emma Bergren

- Senator Bergren reported on the committee's first meeting, the vice chair was Bryan. She also explained their plans and expectations.

g. Chair, Committee on Oversight, Andrew Thompson

- Speaker Thompson reported on the committee's first meeting, the expectations of chairs and the committee.

h. Parliamentarian, Brayden Taeubel

- Parliamentarian Taeubel discussed etiquette.

i. Speaker Pro Tempore, Olivia Ngo

- Speaker Pro Tempore Ngo reported on the work for the internship.

10. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. Senator Noble

- Senator Noble explained the support center in collaboration with NevadaCARES.

11. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK APPOINTMENTS

No nominations were submitted for approval at the time.

12. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS OF SENATORS AND ASUN OFFICIALS

No nominations were submitted for approval at the time.

13. VETO MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

There were no veto messages at the time.

14. CONSENT AGENDA

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

15. FIRST READING OF LEGISLATION

- **S.B. 90- AN ACT AMENDING THE NAME OF CAMPUS ESCORT TO PACK RIDES**
- **S.B.R. 90- A BINDING RESOLUTION TO TEMPORARILY SUSPEND SENATE RULES I.A, II.F.5.I, II.F.5.IX, AND II.G.1**

16. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK LEGISLATION

- **Motion from Senator Kane:** Motion to fast-track S.B. 90- AN ACT AMENDING THE NAME OF CAMPUS ESCORT TO PACK RIDES through unanimous consent.
Seconded by: Senator Kuhl
- **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 Noble:** Motion to fast-track S.B.R. 90- A BINDING RESOLUTION TO TEMPORARILY SUSPEND SENATE RULES I.A, II.F.5.I, II.F.5.IX, AND II.G.1
Seconded by: Senator Ngo
- **Question from Speaker Thompson:** Asked if there was any dissent to the motion. There was no dissent at the time.

- **Resolved:** Motion carried.

17. REFERRALS TO COMMITTEE

There were no referrals to committees.

18. SECOND READING OF LEGISLATION

a. S.B. 90- AN ACT AMENDING THE NAME OF CAMPUS ESCORT TO PACK RIDES

- **Motion from Senator Salah:** Motion to approve S.B. 90- AN ACT AMENDING THE NAME OF CAMPUS ESCORT TO PACK RIDES.

Seconded by: Senator Gonzalez

- Senator Salah presented the legislation.
 - Senator Ngo asked about the max price of the name change.
 - Jimmy stated the 11 thousand would be the max, that number was calculated with a full staff.
 - Senator Brown asked if any of the budget would go toward maintenance.
 - Jimmy stated it would only be for the rebrand.
 - Parliamentarian Taeubel asked about the possibility of it being funded with student fees.
 - Jimmy stated originally it was discussed in April and now closer to the fiscal year they can use left over budget.
 - Senator Brown asked if they did research on the change of names.
 - Jimmy stated he had done outreach and Pack Rides was always the best option.
 - Senator Kermanshahi asked if alumni consideration was not presented.
 - Senator Salah stated alumni consideration was not as important.
- **Vote:** 21 in favor, 1 against, 1 abstained.
- **Resolved:** Motion carried.

Gavel passed so Senator Ngo

b. S.B.R. 90- A BINDING RESOLUTION TO TEMPORARILY SUSPEND SENATE RULES I.A, II.F.5.I, II.F.5.IX, AND II.G.1

- **Motion from Senator Noble:** Motion to approve S.B.R. 90- A BINDING RESOLUTION TO TEMPORARILY SUSPEND SENATE RULES I.A, II.F.5.I, II.F.5.IX, AND II.G.1

• **Seconded by:** Senator Gonzalez

- Senator Thompson explained the legislation.
- Senator Gonzalez asked if the suspension means they can still hold meeting, but they were not abided to.
 - Speaker Thompson stated yes, he can not assign points to chairs for missed meetings, but the chairs can assign point for attendance.
- Senator Gonzalez asked if the first meeting back would be August 31st.
 - Speaker Thompson said yes.
- **Vote:** 23 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained.
- **Resolved:** Motion carried.

Gavel passed so Speaker Thompson

19. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

a. Senate Committee Changes and Additions

- **Motion from Senator Fiorillo:** Motion to add himself to the Committee of Academic and Student Affairs and Committee of Government Operations, through unanimous consent.
Seconded by: Senator Noble
- **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 Noble:** Motion to remove himself from the Committee of Government Operations, through unanimous consent.
Seconded by: Senator Noble
- **Question from Speaker Thompson:** Asked if there was any dissent to the motion. There was no dissent at the time.
- **Resolved:** Motion carried.

b. Senator Reports

No senator reports.

c. Discussion Regarding Senator Wages

- Attorney General Schein explained the Attorney General opinion about Senator wages.
- Senator Noble explained the process that senators would have to take to settle the issue of senator wages.
- Attorney General Schein recommended the Senator should make a ballot question about wages.
- Senator Kermanshahi stated even though there should be a ballot question, students would not consider a raise for Senators. There are issues with the calculation in the Attorney General opinion like; New Student Fee and many more fees.
 - Attorney General Schein stated he had planned to meet with Aja and Heather Turk to discuss the fees. He explained that the fees he used were those which every student pays and are per credit as per advice from the professional staff. He stated that the 3,000 dollars wages should be used unless a ballot question passed.
- Senator Ngo asked the original intent of the formulas in the governing documents.
 - Attorney General Schein stated the minutes for that meeting were not available, so they are unsure of the intent. Though he did research payment of student officials in the West Coast and the majority used a flat number if they get paid at all.
- Senator Salah asked if Senator Kermanshahi wanted a change of terminology or dissent of the flat rate.
 - Senator Kermanshahi stated he wanted a clarification of the word “aggregate”.
- Senator Noble stated the big discussion should be the definition of “aggregate” for the association.
- Attorney General Schein reminded the senators cannot choose their wages and if they define the fees used, they were on the line of that issue.
- Senator Bergen asked how the changes of wage were allowed and how to make sure it would not happen again.
 - Attorney General Schein stated the Speaker went in and changed the number of credits that the senators would be paid for, no one caught the error or fixed the error.
- Speaker Thompson stated the end of discussion should be what could be done to fix the issue

for future senators.

- Attorney General Schein stated at the moment they cannot change wages for the 90th session but in the future, they should discuss it, pass legislation, and make a ballot question.
- Senator Kermanshahi asked if it would be appropriate to reconsider executive officers.
 - Attorney General Schein stated the wages of senators were not being reconsidered, the process taken to give more pay to senators was illegal and it needed to be fixed. If they want to reconsider the wages, they can but it would be for the next session.
- Chief Justice Taylor stated the wage of executive members is explained in the SAS as level pay.
- Senator Noble stated the reduction of pay of colleagues would create more harm.
 - Senator Bryan agreed with Senator Noble.
- Senator Kermanshahi stated he believed that the association should look into the distribution of their funds and be more productive.
 - Attorney General Schein stated that the stipend given would be the work they do a week. He also reminded then that the money was from students and that's why the ballot questions would be the best option so that students understand where their money would go to.
- Speaker Thompson stated that for some officers the wages need to be able to represent their students.
 - Senator Kermanshahi stated that the view of the association was not seen very positive and if they want a raise wages, they should discuss an increase of programs for students.
- Senator Ngo stated the wage was not the reason many of the senators joined the association but to continue to reflect on the goals of the association.
- Attorney General Schein stated if anyone had financial issues there is a lot of help that professional staff had knowledge on.

20. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. Parliamentarian Taeubel

- Parliamentarian Taeubel stated if a senator was to abstain from a vote, they should comment the reason for their decision.

b. Speaker Thompson.

- Speaker Thompson stated there would be a meeting May 18th for nominations.
 - Attorney General Schein stated there needed to be a physical public gallery.

21. PUBLIC COMMENT

a. Attorney General Schein

- Attorney General Schein read into the record the result of the special election.

b. Senator Kermanshahi

- Senator Kermanshahi reminded senators that many students are part of Greek-Life and if they want to discuss how better and improve Greek-Life they could contact him or Senator Brown and Senator Fiorillo.

22. ADJOURNMENT

Speaker Thompson adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m. via the Rita Laden Senate Chambers, 3rd Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union, and via Zoom Conference Call.