

Department of Government Affairs

Executive Board of the Associated Students 90th Session

Minutes for Tuesday, July 26th, 2022 via Zoom Meeting

Email Director Vaskov at directorgovernmentaffairs@asun.unr.edu for more information

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Director Vaskov called the Department of Government Affairs meeting to order on Tuesday, July 26th, 2022, at 11:02am via the President's Conference Room, 3rd Floor at the Joe Crowley Student Union and via Zoom meeting. Presiding Secretary, Amanda Drew.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Director Vaskov, Assistant Director Hatt, Director Sauls, Director Deal, Director Schafer

Absent Excused: Coordinator Shipley

A quorum was present.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

a. There was no public comment at the time

4. MINUTES

- There were no minutes to be approved at the time.

5. REPORTS

a. Report of the Director of Government Affairs, Amanda Vaskov

- Director Vaskov reported that she was lobbying for legislation that would be in the works during the next session, and she listed several officials whom she had brought to campus to achieve this goal; this included people from the City of Reno and student officers from UNLV. She also outlined her work with the ASUN Senate's Democratic and Civic Engagement committee to host a senatorial debate.

b. Report of the Assistant Director of Government Affairs, Isabella Hatt

- Assistant Director Hatt announced a round table event that would be put on by the Department of Government Affairs at 1pm the following day in JCSU room 423. She also mentioned her upcoming meetings with senators Galves and Bergren the following week. She recounted her progress in writing the internship syllabus and reminded the department that a voter registration training would be held on the following day at 10am in JCSU room 323.

c. Report of the Advocacy Director, Dawson Deal

- Director Deal outlined his efforts to attend meetings at the local and state levels in order to provide public comment on behalf of student interest. He emphasized that his attendance at these meetings could allow him to secure more funding for ASUN and listed several upcoming meetings that he planned to attend. He mentioned his plans to proactively set up meetings with local officials in order to secure funding in the near future.

d. Report of the Projects Director, Erin Schafer

- Director Schafer announced that she had been planning the department's Constitution Day, which will be detailed in agenda item 7a.



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Director Vaskov at directorgovernmentaffairs@asun.unr.edu

e. Report of the Policy Director, Matthew Sauls

- Director Sauls recounted his recent meeting with UNLV's student body president, Michael Flores, and Assemblywoman Peters, where they discussed the next steps involved in passing their student debt policy. He also mentioned meeting with the Dean of Housing the following week with hopes of planning a floor meeting for voter registration week; this meeting would be meant to inform students on how and when to register to vote.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- a. There was no old business to be discussed at the time.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. WOW Week Activities

- **Discussion:** Assistant Director Hatt explained the purpose of the Department of Government Affairs's Week of Welcome, which would take place during the week of 9/19. She explained that there would be one event per day and that four of five events had already been submitted to UNR's Student Events Advisory Board. 9/19 would be a panel event (not yet submitted to SEAB), accessible both virtually and in person. 9/20 would be National Voter Registration Day, wherein students would have the chance to register to vote at different locations around campus. There would be a lobbyist training on 9/21 with Michael Flores at 6pm. On 9/22, there would be a Cereal for Stem Event in the DMSC, which would be an outreach event in collaboration with STEM senators. There would be a "Splash into Voting" event on Friday 9/23 from 11:30-2pm, an event in collaboration with other departments. Director Vaskov outlined the tentative budget for the week, which totaled \$680. She emphasized that the lobbying training and panel events would cost nothing. Director Schafer also outlined her plans to hold a Constitution Trivia Night, where students could win the chance to eat lunch with President Sandoval. The department discussed the supplies that may be needed to hold this event.

b. Assemblywoman Anderson Campus Attendance

- Director Vaskov announced that she would be holding an Indigenous student interest round table with Michael Florez, Assistant Director Hatt, and a representative from the Multicultural Center. She said that Assemblywoman Anderson is writing a piece amending the Indigenous student tuition fee waiver. Director Vaskov explained that the round table was meant to give students the opportunity to discuss this piece along with any other other issues that were affecting them. She emphasized that she wanted to make it a goal to bring politicians to campus for student events, and not just for meetings with ASUN officers. She said she wanted to give students a chance to dissent to politicians' or groups' visits to campus if they choose.

c. Budget Approval for WOW Week

- **Motion from Assistant Director Hatt:** AD Hatt made a motion to approve agenda item 7c, the Budget for WOW Week.
Seconded by: Director Schafer
- **Discussion:** There was no discussion at the time.
- **Vote:**
 - **Aye:** Assistant Director Hatt, Director Sauls, Director Deal, Director Schafer
 - **Nay:** None
 - **Abstentions:** None

- **Resolved:** Motion carried.

d. Discussion of Legislative Priorities

- Director Vaskov opened up a discussion regarding the department's legislative priorities. She explained that the legislative priorities served as an advocacy agenda for the coming session, and could apply to the student council or any level of government. She said she wanted to prioritize the student debt case, as well as writing legislation to add a student member to the Nevada Board of Regents. She also mentioned that the department could support and influence Assemblywoman Selena Torres as she readdresses her sexual assault piece from the prior session. Lastly, Director Vaskov suggested a fourth "catch-all category" to address any student support-related issues that may arise in the coming session.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. There was no public comment at the time.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Director Vaskov adjourned the meeting at 11:35am via the ASUN President's Conference Room, 3rd Floor at the Joe Crowley Student Union and via Zoom.