

Department of IDEA

Executive Board of the Associated Students 90th Session

Minutes for Thursday, September 1st, 2022 at

the ASUN President's Conference Room, 3rd Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union & Zoom Meeting

Email diversitydirector@asun.unr.edu for more information

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Trace called the Department of IDEA meeting to order on Thursday, September 1st, 2022, at 5:00pm via the ASUN President's Conference Room, 3rd Floor at the Joe Crowley Student Union and via Zoom conference. Presiding Secretary, Amanda Drew.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioner Garduno, Commissioner Patel, Assistant Director Girma, Director Wolfgang

Absent Excused: Commissioner Simmons

A quorum was present.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

a. Committee Secretary, Amanda Drew

- Secretary Drew introduced herself to the department and announced that she would be covering their biweekly meetings during the 90th session.

b. Director of IDEA, Trace Wolfgang

- Trace read UNR's land acknowledgement statement into the record. The statement read: "To begin, it is important to recognize this space and place that we are able to live, work, and learn in. We acknowledge that the University of Nevada, Reno is situated on the traditional homelands of the Numu (Northern Paiute), Wašiw (Washoe), Newe (Western Shoshone), Nuwu (Southern Paiute) peoples. These lands continue to be a gathering place for Indigenous peoples and we recognize their deep connections to these places. We recognize their connection to this land and honor their powerful legacy." They announced that the Department of IDEA and the ASUN Senate would be agendizing this land acknowledgement in their future meetings.

4. MINUTES

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

5. REPORTS

a. Report of the Commissioner of Projects and Events, Nicole Garduno

- Commissioner Garduno reported that she had been working with Dr. Sanchez at UNR's Latino Research Center to help plan their event celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month. She said that she reached out to the Department of Clubs and Organizations to see if they and the Department of IDEA can table at the event. She also said that she reached out to the Latinx Dance Team to see if they could partner with the Department of IDEA during the department's Hispanic Heritage Month campaign.

b. Report of the Commissioner of Marketing and Outreach, Om Patel



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- Commissioner Patel announced that he was assembling a contact list for the Department of IDEA's Proud to Be Latinx 2022 campaign. He also reported that he was searching for interested students to write a blog post as part of the Hispanic Heritage Month campaign, and that he was continuing that outreach.
- c. **Report of the Assistant Director of IDEA, Helen Girma**
 - Assistant Director Girma outlined her work on the internship, which included finalizing the curriculum and schedule, making final edits to handouts and slides, and reading internship applications.
- d. **Report of the Director of IDEA, Trace Wolfgang**
 - Trace reported that they had been giving presentations to student leaders on campus regarding the operations and goals of the Department of IDEA. They announced that the first Cultural Diversity Committee meeting would be held at 1pm the following day in the Frandsen Humanities Building. They also outlined their trip to Las Vegas with other ASUN officers, where they met representatives from UNLV to discuss steps to support undocumented students in their personal, academic, and professional growth. They also worked with Indigenous Student Services Coordinator Markie Wilder to plan a meeting with local Native and Indigenous students and community members the following week.

6. **OLD BUSINESS**

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

7. **NEW BUSINESS (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

a. **Expectations of Communication and Roles**

- **Discussion:** Trace reviewed their expectations regarding communication via email, and encouraged each department member to CC each other on emails in order to collaborate on projects. They announced that IDEA meetings would occur biweekly on Thursdays at 5pm, and that each department member would be expected to send an update email on Thursdays without scheduled meetings. They said that these emails should include any new project ideas, any relevant life updates, and updates on current projects. Trace incorporated Assistant Director Girma's suggestion that each department member send their update email to a thread that included the entire department. Lastly, Trace expressed their goal to make IDEA's Proud to Be Campaign more fun and less rigid. They reminded the department to have a solid understanding of each other's roles and responsibilities, and encouraged department members to express any and all ideas.

b. **IDEA Internship Updates**

- **Discussion:** Assistant Director Girma shared her internship curriculum and encouraged department members to notify her if they felt anything should be added or changed. She described the purpose of the department of IDEA and the expectations of each intern and mentor, including project and meeting requirements. She then outlined the internship schedule week by week, including specific projects that interns would be expected to complete. Assistant Director Girma clarified that interns would get support from ASUN should they decide to run for election; to accomplish this, she explained that weeks 16 through 18 of the internship were optional and tailored for interns who decided to run. She also went into greater detail about the expectations of mentors during the internship and said that she would like other department members to sit in on the final rounds of internship interviews. Trace reported that there were many applicants who were interested in interning for IDEA and that the selection process would likely be competitive.

- Each department member added their contact information to be included in the handout.

c. **Proud to Be Latinx with Nevada Campaign**

- **Discussion:** Trace asked department members to raise any concerns regarding their projects for the Proud to Be Latinx campaign.
 - **Undocumented Student Support:** Trace announced that they were working with some senators on a process to get undocumented students access to campus jobs without using Workday. They emphasized that this project was not a part of the Proud to Be Latinx campaign but it aligned with the interests of many students who identified as Latinx. hopefully program with latin dance club, host a night for students to learn/share latin dance. goal is to get students who do and dont identify with those cultures to celebrate cultures.
 - **Proud to Be Latinx Social Media Campaign:** Commissioner Patel mentioned that he wanted to put together a social media campaign via the Nevada ASUN page, and he expressed a desire to connect with the Director of Campus and Public Relations, Carlos Lara. Trace responded that Director Lara could help Commissioner Patel with drafting social media posts and that Inkblot could be of assistance, as well.
 - **Tabling at Other Hispanic Heritage Month Events:** Commissioner Garduno expressed concerns about “taking over” the Latino Research Center’s Hispanic Heritage month event, but emphasized that she still wanted ASUN to be present there. Trace responded that while ASUN could table at events like this, ASUN should provide a platform to tell students about these events without taking them over.
 - **Student Feedback:** Trace mentioned creating a “vent hotline” geared toward Latinx students to share their concerns about conditions on campus. They said that the department could set up a Google Voice number to accept calls from students, and that they could set up a message asking callers for specific feedback. The department discussed relaying this feedback to other forums, including public comments at ASUN Senate meetings. They also brought up holding a town hall in the coming weeks, but the department agreed that this may create accessibility issues. The department members expressed that students may wish to remain anonymous. Assistant Director Girma suggested finding a room for students to express their concerns privately with department members.

8. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Trace adjourned the meeting at 5:46pm via the President’s Conference Room, 3rd Floor at the Joe Crowley Student Union and via Zoom conference call.