

90th Session of the Senate of the Associated Students

Minutes for Wednesday, October 12th, 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 Wednesday, October 12th, 2022, at 5:34 p.m. via the Rita Laden Senate Chambers, Third Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union, and via Zoom Conference Call. Presiding Secretaries, Wyatt. Ally Chavez, and Amanda Drew.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Speaker Thompson, Speaker Pro Tempore Ngo, Parliamentarian Taubel, and Senators Bergren, Brown, Bryan, Claussen, Dean, Fiorillo, Gonzalez, Greb, Jojan, Kane, Kermanshahi, Kuhl, Landolfi, McCulley, Noble, Salah, Smith, and Swackhamer.

Tardy Unexcused: Senator Perez-Ramirez,

Absent Excused: Senator Cano-Sanchez, Galvez, Nithyanandan and Salah,

A quorum was present.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

No minutes were approved at the time.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

a. Dionne Stanfill, President of ASUN

- Dionne gave a Happy Birthday to the University of Nevada, Reno

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

There were no receipts of petitions and correspondence at this time.

7. REPORTS OF ASUN OFFICERS

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

- President Stanfill reported on her meeting with Parking Services and they redesigned the Presidential Seal with her focus to be Richard Bryan. She met with Veterans Services, Director Vaskov, Michael Flores, Dr. Elis, the Regents, and Speaker Thompson. She had worked on plans for Nevada Day, and she gave her support for the Prison Labor piece.

b. **Vice President of the Associated Students, Bayla Fitzpatrick**

- Vice President Fitzpatrick reported her presentation at the Reno Fall Preview and her many meetings. Which included one with Speaker Thompson about a collaboration between Pack Research and the career studio. She met with the campus facility and Blue Crew, Committee of Status of Woman, Student Media Committee and University Athletics.
 - Senator Ngo stated the Committee of Democratic and Civic Engagement could help with the Committee of Status of Woman.



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c. Chief Justice, Zane Taylor

- Chief Justice Taylor reported the interns had their projects of cases and presented them to the council.

d. Chief of Staff, Ashley Martinez

- Chief of Staff Martinez reported on the interns' interviews of the senators, and she had set up 2 sessions for headshots.

e. Chief of Internal Affairs, Jada Maglinao

- Chief of Internal Affairs Maglinao reported on her meeting and the many events that happened at the time.

f. Director of Clubs and Organizations, Tre Taylor

- Director Taylor reported on the start of committees in the departments for Spring Club Fair and iServe, the department was focused on club renewals and the club master list.
 - Senator Kermanshahi thanked Director Taylor for their support of Nevada Athletics.

g. Director of Event Programming, Maria Zamudio

- Director Zamudio reported on all the Welcome Week Events that were put on by the department.

h. Director of Government Affairs, Amanda Vaskov

- Director Vaskov reported on all the events the department put on which included: round table about sexual assault, Donut Forget to Vote, and Attorney General Ford, and NSA.

i. Director of IDEA, Trace Wolfgang

- Director Wolfgang reported celebration of Coming Out Day and Indigenous Culture. They also introduced his podcast.
 - Senator Kermanshahi asked if he could join the podcast.
 - Director Wolfgang stated yes.

j. Director of Sustainability, Chris Rowe

- Director Rowe reported on a planting event in the Silver Lot, the Bicycle Working group had written legislation in favor of the Micro-mobility project that had happened downtown. He also stated that the SNIFF opened applications.

k. Director of Campus and Public Relations, Carlos Lara

- Director Lara reported on the Met the Department campaign that would be ready soon. He helped President Stanfill on the Presidential Seal. He also worked with Inkblot for a Cookies for Complaints video and State of the Association event.

l. Director of Campus Wellness, Boris Carpio-Guerra

- Director Carpio-Guerra reported on the events of Sound Body Sound Mind.

m. Attorney General, Jakob Schein

- Attorney General Schein reported legislation that was being created, which included the officer conduct legislation. He started work on some more legislation to make a better line of process.
 - Senator Jojan asked for an explanation on the Officer Conduct Legislation.
 - Speaker Thompson stated that the legislation was favorably recommended by Oversight so the next meeting the body would discuss it.
 - Attorney General Schein gave a short explanation of the legislation.

n. Secretary of the Senate, Wyatt Layland

- Senate Secretary Layland reported on the work the Secretary office had done with the Prison Labor legislation. He also stated there would be a new points memo and to contact himself or Speaker Thompson for any concerns.

o. Speaker of the Senate, Andrew Thompson

- Speaker Thompson asked the senators to volunteer for the many events the Senate would table at. The applications for the Senator of the Business had closed and the applicant would be before Senate soon.
 - Senator Greb asked if there would be another election.
 - Speaker Thompson stated no since they are at the minimum number of Senate members the new senators would be appointed.

8. REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEES

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

- Senator Nithyanandan reported she met with Dr. Elis and there was a legislation on the table the committee recommended. The committee would meet October 20th at 2pm.

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

- Senator Noble reported that the committee had a financial review on the Fall/Spring Concert accounts and programming boards. The committee had also split up in groups to write the ballot question about senator wages.

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

- Senator Claussen reported on updates to the Veteran Luncheons and the updates to the amend the legislative priority timeline.

d. Chair, Committee on IDEA, Jaime Gonzalez

- Senator Gonzalez reported on a new event with the First Generation Center.
 - Senator Greb stated that the event would only be for First Generation students.
 - Senator Gonzalez stated that last he heard it was opened to everyone.

e. Chair, Committee on Government Operations, Fayza Salah

- Senator Salah had no report.

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

- Senator Bergren reported the committee had public comments about public transportation and she would meet with Pack Rides soon to get legislation out. The next meeting would talk about complaints from Cookies for Complaints.

g. Chair, Committee on Oversight, Andrew Thompson

- Speaker Thompson reported that the Oversight meeting would hear the Officer Conduct legislation.

h. Parliamentarian, Brayden Taeubel

- Parliamentarian Taeubel reported that he met with Attorney General Schein, Chief of Staff, Ashley Martinez and Chief of Internal Affairs, Jada Maglinao about the Officer Handbook and he attended NevadaBound with Senator Noble.

i. Speaker Pro Tempore, Olivia Ngo

- Speaker Pro Tempore Ngo reported that everyone should connect with their interns, and she

was happy to hear all the positive experiences from the interns and officers. She also reminded the Senators about their outreach that was needed and to respond to their interns in a timely manner.

9. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no comments and announcements.

10. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK APPOINTMENTS

No nominations were submitted to the Speaker of the Senate at this time.

11. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS OF SENATORS AND ASUN OFFICIALS

There were no appointments at this time.

12. VETO MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

There were no veto messages at the time.

13. CONSENT AGENDA

There were no consent agenda.

14. FIRST READING OF LEGISLATION

a. S.B. 90- A BILL AMENDING LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY TIMELINE

15. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK LEGISLATION

a. S.B. 90- A BILL AMENDING LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY TIMELINE

- **Motion by Senator Claussen:** Motion to fast-track S.B 90- A BILL AMENDING LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY TIMELINE
 - **Second by:** Senator Ngo
- Attorney General Schein stated that the piece needed to be passed so that the department of Government Affairs could start to lobby at the Legislature.
- Speaker Thompson asked if there was any dissent.
 - There was no dissent.
- Motion: Carried

16. REFERRALS TO COMMITTEE

There were no referrals to committee at this time.

17. SECOND READING OF LEGISLATION

a. S.R. 90- A RESOLUTION TO DIVEST FROM PRISON LABOR

- **Motion by Senator Noble:** Motion to approve S.R. 90- A RESOLUTION TO DIVEST FROM PRISON LABOR.

Second by: Senator Jojan
- Senator Jojan, Senate Secretary Layland, and Director Wolfgang presented and explained the legislation.

- Senator Brown asked why the legislation was created since those binding hadn't been used in a long time.
 - Senator Jojan stated that was intentions were to revive the tradition of binding. Though there was still a long legacy of prison labor and slavery and there needed to be an acknowledgment of that issue.
- Senator Brown asked about the extra cost.
 - Senator Layland stated that they needed to take into consideration the harm that their money was doing. He also stated that he had found local Reno binding shops would be more cost efficient.
 - Senator Noble stated that the ASUN budget could cover the difference.
- Senator Fiorillo stated that prison labor did increase the success of rehabilitation.
 - Senator Jojan stated even though those states are true there was a bias during the data collection. These prisoners had less rights during because of no healthcare, workers protection, and workers union.
- Senator Dean asked if they were in a contract with SSI.
 - Senator Jojan stated no.
- Senator Dean asked why the legislation was a resolution not a bill.
 - Senator Jojan stated the other contributors and himself thought the resolution format was the best.
 - Secretary Layland stated though there was no contract there was a history that needed to be severed.
 - Secretary Chavez stated the resolution was to educate people on the action of SSI.
- Senator Gonzalez stated the legislation was a great way to start people to talk about the issues.
- Senator Kermanshahi stated that the Nevada prison system is very progressive and the prisoners do get healthcare and do have some rights. He stated they should be more careful about the language to not marginalize the people who work at these prisons.
- Director Wolfgang stated that the wages for prisoners in Nevada were the same as in Texas and California had a wage of \$0.15. The system had many flaws and needed to be redone because even though the prisoners of Nevada may be less abused than prisoners in Texas or Alabama that doesn't mean they are doing great.
 - Senator Jojan explained that they included data outside the state of Nevada, but they looked at SSI and their data. He agreed that Nevada was a voluntary work state, but prisoners had repercussions if they did not work.
- Senator Kermanshahi disagreed. He stated there should be revision to be more inclusion.
- Senator Greb asked how they could ban a university supplier and what would be the result of it.
 - Secretary Layland stated he liked the disagreement, but the legislation was favorably recommended so it should be passed. When he investigated SSI, they told him they did not do studies and their evidence was anecdotal. These people are not "gangbangers" or "Wallflowers" they are people and to call them that would be dehumanization. The legislation was about the Secretary office and how the office could stop using them. If they wanted to continue that fight that would be for another day.
- Senator Smith showed his approval for the bill.
- Director Wolfgang stated that this bill was the smallest scale, the secretaries office decided it would not use it and to encourage the association to look at their resources.

- Senator Noble stated that the legislation had been talked about and he had made up his mind.
- **Motion by Senator Noble:** Motion to previous question.
- **Second by:** Senator Dean
- **Vote:** Yeas; Senator Bergren, Bryan, Claussen, Jojan, Kane, Kuhl, Landolfi, McCulley, Noble, Smith, and Taubel, Nays; Senator Brown, Kermanshahi, Ngo, and Swackhamer, Abstentions; Senator Dean, Fiorillo, Gonzalez, and Greb.
- **Motion:** Failed
- Senator Swackhamer stated the quote of “Modern day slavery” should be correctly quoted.
- Senator Jojan stated that it was quoted and even though it was strong language there it showed how important the issue was.
- Senator Ngo stated she understood why the strong language but she also recommended the senators if needed to out loud draft any changes. She stated this was a stance that the association could make. She also asked if the cutting off SSI would be just Secretary Layland or if they had to go through more people.
 - Secretary Layland stated he would be the one to do it.
- Senator Brown stated if they changed the language, it would make it more inclusive.
- Senator Dean stated he wanted to vote yes but the language should be changed to make it less harsh.
- Senator Kermanshahi stated that some of the language was incredibly disrespectful and needed to go back to committee to be revised.
- Senator Fiorillo stated that the association was very progressive and to stereotype would be very offensive.
- Senator Jojan explained the usage of “modern slavery” in the legislation and that the legislation was not to attack people who work in the prison system but to bring light to the harsh history of prison labor.
- Senator McCulley stated that the usage of the term voluntary should be looked at loosely since there are repercussions that the senate body would not know about.
- Senator Gonzalez asked for clarification to change the term NDOC to SSI to only target the company not the state.
- **Motion by Senator Noble:** Motion to previous question.
- **Second by:** Senator McCulley
- **Vote:** Yeas; Senator Bergren, Bryan, Claussen, Jojan, Kane, Kuhl, Landolfi, McCulley, Noble, Smith, and Taubel, Nays; Senator Brown, Fiorillo, Kane, Kermanshahi, Abstentions; Senator Dean, Gonzalez, Greb, Kuhl, and Swackhamer.
- **Motion:** Failed
- **Motion by Senator Kermanshahi:** Motion to send the legislation back to the Committee of IDEA
 - **Second by:** Senator Fiorillo
 - Senator Jojan and Secretary Layland encouraged the senators to make an amendment at the table instead of sending it back to committee.
- Parliamentarian Taubel reminded the senator to add a date in which the legislation is to return to the table.
- Senator Kermanshahi stated that there was no spite in the motion but it should be revised.
- Senator Smith also encouraged to make amendments.
- Senator Dean stated it was the best option for the legislation to be sent back. (2;24)
- **Vote:** Yeas; Senator Brown, Bryan, Dean, Greb, Kane, Kermanshahi, Swackhamer, Nays; Senator Bergren, Claussen, Fiorillo, Jojan, Kuhl, Landolfi, McCulley, Abstentions; Senator Gonzalez.

- **Motion:** Failed
 - Director Wolfgang stated that those senators that are opposed to the language should change it because the committee liked the legislation it most likely would not get changed there.
 - **Motion by Parliamentarian Taubel:** Motion to postpone the legislation.
 - **Vote:** 17 yeas, 2 nays, 0 abstentions.
 - **Motion:** Carried
- b. **S.B. 90- A BILL AMENDING LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY TIMELINE**
- **Motion by Senator Kuhl:** Motion to approve S.B. 90- A BILL AMENDING LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY TIMELINE
- Second by:** Senator Noble
- Attorney General Schein and Senator Claussen explained the legislation.
- **Vote:** 18 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.
 - **Motion:** Carried
- c. **S.R. 90- A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AMENDING ARTICLE V, SECTION 7-10 OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS HANDBOOK TO ALLOW THE NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE CHAIR ACCESS TO THE AGENDA**
- **Motion by Senator Noble:** Motion to approve S.R. 90- A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AMENDING ARTICLE V, SECTION 7-10 OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS HANDBOOK TO ALLOW THE NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE CHAIR ACCESS TO THE AGENDA
- Second by:** Senator Claussen
- President Stanfill explained the legislation.
 - Senator Brown asked when results would be seen.
 - President Stanfill stated the legislation would be seen by the Board of Regent in the December meeting or the next one. This legislation would be the start of many changes that she wanted to make.
 - Senator Noble showed his support.
- **Vote:** 18 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.
 - **Motion:** Carried

18. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

- a. **Senate Committee Changes and Additions**
- **Motion by Senator Bergren:** Motion to remove Senator Galvez from Safety Sustainability and Wellness committee.
- b. **Senator Reports**
- There were no reports.
- c. **Presentations**
- Athletic Director of the University of Nevada, Reno, Stephanie Rempe
 - Director Rempe gave a presentation on the projects and events being planned and put on by the Athletics department.

19. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Senator of CABNR, Matthew Swackhamer

- Senator Swackhamer stated that Pack Provisions receives their food on Friday and needs volunteers to help move the food into the pantry.

20. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Attorney General, Jake Schein
 - Attorney General Schein stated the senators should try and not to whisper per Nevada Open Meeting Laws.

21. ADJOURNMENT

Speaker Thompson adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m. via the Rita Laden Senate Chambers, 3rd Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union, and via Zoom Conference Call.