

Committee on Government Operations

Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada 90th Session

Agenda for Friday, February 3, 2022 at 5:00 pm

Conference Room 405, 4th Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union and on Zoom Email

Senator Salah at senatorsalah@asun.unr.edu for more information

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

Roll Call must be listed by the Secretary.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT (INFORMATION ONLY)

Items heard under public comment may be for items either on or off the agenda. Action may not be taken on items raised under public comment. The Chair may elect to take public comment on action items on this agenda. The Chair may impose reasonable limits on the length members of the public may speak.

4. OLD BUSINESS (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

a. Project Tracker

Committee members will address any projects they are working on or intend to work on

5. NEW BUSINESS (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

a. S. B. R. 90 - A BINDING RESOLUTION TO CODIFY HYBRID PLATFORMS FOR SENATE MEETINGS

b. S. B. 90 - A BILL TO CODIFY HYBRID PLATFORMS FOR SENATE MEETINGS

c. S. B. 90 - AN ACT TO AMEND THE ASUN CONSTITUTION TO DECREASE THE CREDIT REQUIREMENT FOR APPOINTED JUSTICES

6. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (INFORMATION ONLY)

The Chair will recognize Committee members requesting the floor for a period not to exceed two minutes for the purpose of miscellaneous reports and requests.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT (INFORMATION ONLY)

Items heard under public comment may be for items either on or off the agenda. Action may not be taken on items raised under public comment. The Chair may elect to take public comment on action items on this agenda. The Chair may impose reasonable limits on the length members of the public may speak.

**POSTED ON OR BEFORE 9:00 a.m. ON THE THIRD WORKING DAY
BEFORE THE MEETING**

Posted at the ASUN Offices in the Joe Crowley Student Union, Frandsen Humanities Building, the Pennington Student Achievement Center, the Mathewson IGT Knowledge Center and online at www.nevadaasun.com. Requests for supporting material for an agenda item should be directed to the Archives of the Associated Students.



If you would like a copy of any of the agenda items listed, please contact Chair Salah at senatorsalah@asun.unr.edu

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9. ADJOURNMENT

10. NOTES

Unless otherwise marked by an asterisk, all items are action items upon which the Committee may take action. Agenda items may be considered out of order at the discretion of the Chair. The Committee may combine two or more agenda items for consideration. The Committee may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time.

The Associated Students supports providing equal access to all programs for people with disabilities. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate physically handicapped persons desiring to attend the meeting. Please call ASUN at (775) 784-6589 or contact Chair Salah at senatorsalah@asun.unr.edu in advance so that arrangements may be conveniently made

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

90th SESSION
2022-2023

**S. B. R. 90 -
A BINDING RESOLUTION TO CODIFY
HYBRID PLATFORMS FOR SENATE
MEETINGS**

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

NOVEMBER 30, 2022

SUBMITTED BY SENATOR GALVEZ TO THE SENATE OF ASSOCIATED STUDENTS,
AUTHORED BY SENATOR GALVEZ AND INTERN AURORA DAVIS

A Binding Resolution to Codify Hybrid Platforms For Senate Meetings

Whereas, the Senate of the Associated Students has no mention of remote technology systems within its governing documents;

Whereas, Speaker Thompson's email is on the agenda for Senate so the entire body is able to contact him to acquire the Zoom link;

Whereas, all senators and the public should be able to virtually access meetings in later sessions, regardless of who is the Speaker;

Whereas, some senators attend on Zoom every week;

Whereas, the continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic may make it difficult for individuals to attend in-person meetings;

Whereas, the smoke in Reno continues to cancel classes and meetings on campus, making it a challenge to have in-person Senate meetings;

Whereas, the acquisition of other universities and colleges make it difficult for students on satellite campuses to attend Senate meetings that take place on the University of Nevada, Reno main campus;

Whereas, remote technology systems such as Zoom would allow both the public and ASUN senators to access Senate meetings, regardless of location, weather, or state of wellbeing;

Be it resolved by the Senate of the Associated Students,

- a) The 90th Session Rules of the Senate adopt the changes in Addendum A;

Be it further resolved by the Senate of the Associated Students,

- a) The 90th Session Rules of the Senate adopt the changes in Addendum B;

Addendum A:

Rule I: MEETINGS OF THE SENATE

a) MEETINGS AT CALL OF SPEAKER The Speaker shall call meetings of the Senate as he, she, or they deems appropriate, provided that the Senate shall meet at least once every two full class weeks, and that the regular meeting date and time of the Senate shall be on Wednesdays no earlier than 5:30 p.m., unless the Senate orders otherwise. The Speaker shall call no less than two meetings of the Student Senate at least one week apart during the spring semester of his, her, or their election.

Each in-person meeting of the Senate shall be accessible through Zoom (or an alternate remote technology system), in addition to the in-person meeting location. Senators participating virtually shall be considered present and, therefore, count towards quorum. The remote meeting shall be accessible to the public through a link on the Senate meeting agenda.

b) MEETINGS AT CALL OF SENATE At any time the Senate is in session, it shall be in order as a privileged motion for any Senator to move to schedule an additional meeting, for the date and time he, she, or they shall prescribe in the motion. Such a motion shall be un-debatable and shall require the consent of a simple majority of the Senate.

c) MEETINGS BY PETITION OF SENATORS At any time outside of a meeting, a petition to call a meeting, prescribing the date and time of the meeting and signed by at least one-half of all qualified Senators, may be submitted to the Speaker. Upon receipt of a valid

petition, the Speaker shall provide notice of the additional meeting to all Senators, provided that the petition is submitted in ample time in advance of the date and time of the meeting as indicated in the petition.

Addendum B:

Rule II: MEMBERSHIP OF THE SENATE

a) **QUALIFICATIONS OF SENATORS**

A member of the Association shall be considered a qualified Senator-elect upon receipt by the Secretary a certification of his, her, or their election to the Senate from the proper official, or a qualified Senator- designate upon the approval by the Senate. Before such a qualified Senatorelect or Senator-designate may assume office, he, she, or they shall be administered the oath of office by the Speaker as required by law.

b) **RESIGNATIONS**

Any Senator may resign his, her, or their seat by submitting in writing a letter of resignation, signed and dated, announcing the same. The Speaker shall cause the resignation to be placed on the agenda of the next possible Senate meeting, where the resignation shall be read and shall be considered.

c) **APPOINTMENT TO FILL VACANT SEATS**

Whenever a vacancy exists in the Senate, the Speaker shall enable qualified members of the Association to petition for appointment to the seat. The Speaker shall, at a minimum, cause an advertisement to be placed in the Nevada Sagebrush to solicit applicants for a vacant seat. Such an advertisement shall run for two consecutive weeks, and can include online platforms. If no qualified petitions are received, the Speaker shall report this fact to the Senate.

d) DOCUMENTING ATTENDANCE

The Secretary will report the attendance of individual Senators during his, her, or their report to the Committee on Oversight. The Committee on Oversight shall submit a report of attendance to the Nevada Sagebrush as well as the Legislative Clerk upon the conclusion of every meeting. Failure to report at any point in the escalation described will result in points detailed under Rule II, (f), 4, (i-ix).

e) QUORUM

1) If, at any time during a meeting of the Senate, a question shall be raised by any Senator as to the presence of a quorum, the Speaker shall forthwith direct the Secretary to call the roll and shall announce the result, and these proceedings shall be without debate.

2) Whenever upon such roll call it shall be ascertained that a quorum is not present, a majority of the Senators present may direct the Speaker of the Senate to request the attendance of the absent Senators, an order which shall be determined without debate; and pending its execution, and until a quorum shall be present, no debate nor motion, except to adjourn, to recess, or to take other measures to obtain quorum, shall be in order.

3) In order for a quorum to be met there must be half of the voting members plus one (the chair and vice-chair are considered voting members). In any case where there are an odd number of voting members present quorum can be met with a simple majority. **Senators present, whether in person, or by use of a remote technology system, shall count towards quorum.**

a) Example: If there are 9 (nine) voting members, 5 (five) voting members must be present to have a quorum.

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

90th SESSION
2022-2023

**S. B. 90 -
A BILL TO CODIFY HYBRID PLATFORMS
FOR SENATE MEETINGS**

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

NOVEMBER 30, 2022

SUBMITTED BY SENATOR GALVEZ TO THE SENATE OF ASSOCIATED STUDENTS,
AUTHORED BY SENATOR GALVEZ AND INTERN AURORA DAVIS

A Bill to Codify Hybrid Platforms For Senate Meetings

Whereas, this bill shall be taken into consideration along with *S. B. R. 90 - A Bill to Codify Hybrid Platforms for Senate Meetings*;

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Associated Students,

- a) The Statues of the Associated Students adopt the changes in Addendum A;

Addendum A:

SECTION 02: SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

a) IN GENERAL:

The Senate shall elect from its membership a Speaker of the Senate who shall act as Chair of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight.

b) DUTIES:

The duties of the Speaker of the Senate include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Act as the signing authority for all accounts under control of the Senate.
- 2) Administer oaths and affirmations that are or may be required by the Constitution, or by law, to be taken by any Senator, officer of the Senate, witness, or other person in respect to any matter within the jurisdiction of the Senate.
- 3) Call meetings of the Senate as stated by law.
- 4) Ensure that all meetings of the Senate are virtually accessible through remote technology platforms
- 5) Produce the agenda for any given meeting of the Senate and give proper time for officer reports, committee reports and items of business.
- 6) Direct the Senate to maintain proper decorum during meeting
- 7) Manage Senator resignations and place the announcement of such resignations on the agenda.
- 8) Publicize and, at minimum, place advertisement in the Nevada Sagebrush for vacant Legislative positions.
- 9) Vote in matters of business where the speaker's vote would be decisive.
- 10) Sign all Acts of the Senate within Constitutional time limit.
- 11) Ensure Senate is following Nevada Open Meeting Law
- 12) Determine the quality of paper on which to print enrolled bills.
- 13) Email any legislation originally introduced within Senate or the Committee on Oversight to the Legislative Clerk within 24 hours of posting the agenda.
- 14) Act as President if, by reason of death, resignation, removal from office, inability, or failure to qualify, there is neither a President nor Vice President to discharge the powers and duties of the office of President.
- 15) To serve as a member of the University Leadership Alliance.
- 16) Responsible to attend all ASUN retreats, and trainings as decided by the Chief of Internal Affairs.

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

90th SESSION
2022-2023

S. B. 90-
AN ACT TO AMEND THE ASUN
CONSTITUTION TO DECREASE THE
CREDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR
APPOINTED JUSTICES

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

NOVEMBER 30TH, 2022

SUBMITTED BY SENATOR SALAH TO THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS ON BEHALF OF
CHIEF JUSTICE TAYLOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ASUN CONSTITUTION TO DECREASE THE
CREDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR APPOINTED JUSTICES

1 *Whereas*, The Constitution of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada
2 Article IV, Section 1(b) reads, “QUALIFICATIONS — No person shall be appointed a
3 justice who has not completed 60 undergraduate credits and been a member of the
4 Association for two consecutive semesters.”¹;

¹ Constitution of the Associated Students: https://de5u0yfu98nbk.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/53996411_89-ASUNConstitution_November2021.pdf

1 *Whereas*, The Statutes of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada Title III:
2 the Judicial Branch, Chapter 301: Judicial Branch Composition, Section 01: Composition:
3 reads, “The Judicial Branch is comprised of four Associate Justices including a Senior
4 Associate Justice, one Chief Justice and Judicial Interns, each appointed by the President and
5 confirmed by the Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada to serve a
6 two-year term.”²;

7 *Whereas*, Decreasing the credit requirement for the associate justice position would
8 increase opportunity for students to participate in the Association;

9 *Whereas*, This leaves a small pool of applicants and a low participation in an integral
10 branch of the Association;

11 *Whereas*, Specifically, this new measure would grant larger access to the specific position
12 that judicial interns train for;

13 *Whereas*, It is within the Chief Justice’s job duties to plan, organize, and execute the
14 judicial internship program to include judicial content that is curtailed to an eventual position
15 within the Judicial Branch of the Association²;

16 *Whereas*, Given that the judicial interns are typically students who have not reached the
17 current 60 credit requirement, the current requirement disincentivizes immediate intern
18 engagement with the position they trained for;

19 *Whereas*, This restricts otherwise qualified applicants and only allows students late in
20 their undergraduate education to serve on Judicial Council;

21 *Whereas*, Justices serve a two-year term, and often do not complete their full term due to
22 early resignation by means of graduation;

² Statutes of the Associated Students: https://de5u0yfu98nbk.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/53996411_89-sas_12-19-2021_101.pdf

1 *Whereas*, This discourages students from applying for judicial positions because of not
2 qualifying by the requirements and not being able to serve a full tenure;

3 *Be it Enacted*, Pursuant to Article IV, Section 1(b) of the Constitution of the Associated
4 Students, upon the passage of this bill, a question seeking approval of decreasing the
5 undergraduate credit requirement for justices in the following ballot question: “*Shall the*
6 *Associated Students of the University of Nevada decrease the 60 undergraduate credits requirement for*
7 *appointed justices to 45 undergraduate credits to increase the opportunity for students of the University of*
8 *Nevada, Reno to be appointed as justices?*”

Addendum A

ARTICLE IV—THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

SECTION 1.

The judicial authority of the Association shall rest with a Judicial Council of the Associated Students.

(a) **COMPOSITION AND TERM** — The Council shall consist of a Chief Justice of the Associated Students and four associate justices, who shall serve terms of two years.

(b) **QUALIFICATIONS** — No person shall be appointed a justice who has not completed 45 undergraduate credits and been a member of the Association for two consecutive semesters.

(c) **REQUIREMENT OF GOOD STANDING** — A justice may not continue to serve in office who is not in good disciplinary standing with the University.

(d) **COMPENSATION** — Justices shall receive a compensation for their services, which shall not be decreased during their continuation in office.