

Committee on Budget and Finance

Senate of the Associated Students 91st Session

Minutes for Friday, April 21, 2023 at 3:00pm

Presidents Conference Room, 3rd Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union & Zoom Meeting

Email Senator Landazuri senatorlandazuri@asun.unr.edu for more information

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Landaruri called the Committee on Budget and Finance meeting to order at 3:00pm via the Presidents Conference Room, Third Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union. Presiding Secretary, Amanda Drew.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Senator Landazuri, Senator Acevedo-Perez, Senator Acklin, Senator Beulac, Senator J. Tracy

Absent Excused: Senator Ali

Tardy Excused: Senator Mirth

A quorum was present.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at the time.

4. MINUTES

There were no minutes to be approved at the time.

5. OLD BUSINESS

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

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Election of the Vice Chair for the Committee on Budget & Finance

- Senator Beulac nominated Senator J. Tracy for the position of Vice Chair.
- Senator J. Tracy declined the nomination.
- Senator Acklin nominated himself for Vice Chair.
- **Presentation:** Senator Acklin gave a three minute statement detailing his reasons for pursuing the role of Vice Chair. He highlighted the platform on which he ran when he was elected to the Senate, which focused heavily on making ASUN more accountable and transparent in its spending while also finding innovative budget solutions to benefit students. He claimed that he could better fulfill these goals by serving as Vice Chair.
 - **Questions:** There were no questions for Senator Acklin at the time.
 - **Discussion:** There was no discussion regarding Senator Acklin's nomination.
- **Motion from Senator J. Tracy:** Motioned to approve Senator Acklin as the Vice Chair of the Committee on Budget and Finance.
- **Seconded by:** Senator Acevedo-Perez.
- **Vote:**
 - **In Favor:** Senator Acevedo-Perez, Senator Beulac, Senator J. Tracy



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If you would like a copy of any of the agenda items listed, please contact Senator Diana Landazuri at senatorlandazuri@asun.unr.edu

- **Opposed:** None
- **Abstention:** None
- **Resolved:** Motion carried.

b. Committee Goals and Expectations

- **Discussion:** Senator Landazuri stated that her goals were to protect student fees by holding regular financial reviews to reinforce responsible spending within ASUN. She added that she intended to monitor the status of costly ASUN projects and investigate all deviations from the budget. Vice Chair Acklin commented that he intended to attempt to cut the costs of various goods and services on campus, particularly parking and textbooks, to benefit students. Senator Beaulac stated that she wished to make ASUN's use of student fees more transparent for students. She explained that increased transparency would promote trust between ASUN and the rest of the student body. She added that she wished to gain a better understanding of budgeting and financial reviews so that she could achieve more goals in the Committee on Safety, Sustainability, and Wellness. Senator Acevedo-Perez discussed expanding UNR's Legal Services to assist students pursuing US citizenship. Senator J. Tracy asked Chair Landazuri to outline the responsibilities of the Budget and Finance Committee. Chair Landazuri stated that the committee was responsible for approving the ASUN budget, which would be drafted by President Carpio Guerra. She also explained that the committee would monitor ASUN's accounts and conduct a financial review of each ASUN department twice per semester. She announced that the committee would meet weekly until the ASUN budget was approved, for which the deadline was June 30, 2023.

7. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no comments or announcements at the time.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

a. Director of the Center for Student Engagement, Dr. Sandra Rodriguez

- Director Rodriguez explained that Section 10 of the Senate Rules included a comprehensive description of the Budget and Finance Committee. She added that the Committee had the ability to change the budget drafted by President Carpio Guerra, and that this amended budget could then be passed by the Senate body. She explained that these amendments could be reversed by a line-item veto from the President, which could in turn be overridden by the Senate. She also reminded that two higher learning professionals from outside of Nevada would be conducting an external review of ASUN on May 3 and 4. She stated that officers from both the 90th and 91st session were expected to attend.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Landazuri adjourned the meeting at 3:16pm via the Presidents Conference Room, Third Floor at the Joe Crowley Student Union.