

# 91<sup>st</sup> Session of the Senate of the Associated Students

Agenda for Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 5:30 P.M.

In Person – Rita Laden Senate Chambers (3<sup>rd</sup> floor of JCSU)

Zoom Meeting – Email Fayza Salah at [speaker@asun.unr.edu](mailto:speaker@asun.unr.edu) for details

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

**3. ROLL CALL**

Roll Call must be listed by Legislative Clerk

**4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

No meeting minutes were submitted at this time.

**5. 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 Speaker may elect to take public comment on action items on this agenda. The Speaker may impose reasonable limits on the length members of the public may speak.

Members of the public may participate in the meeting without being physically present by submitting public comment via email to Wyatt Layland at [senatesecretary@asun.unr.edu](mailto:senatesecretary@asun.unr.edu). Please email Wyatt for the meeting details through the email listed above.

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 Speaker may elect to take public comment on actions items on this agenda. The Speaker may impose reasonable limits on the length members of the public may speak.

**6. RECEIPT OF PETITIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE TO THE SENATE AND REFERRAL (INFORMATION ONLY)**

The Senate will receive communications addressed to the Senate and, if necessary, refer each to the appropriate committee. No action will be taken on communications other than referring them to committee unless placed on the fast-track or consent agenda.

- a. Nomination, Director for the Department of IDEA, Arthur-James Okwuosa
- b. Nomination, Director for the Department of Sustainability, Matthew Sauls
- c. Applicant, Senator for the College of Education, Emma Thomsen
- d. Applicant, Senator for the College of Engineering, Thomas Vasile
- e. Applicant, Senator for the College of Engineering, Antony Kuhl

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**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](http://www.nevadaasun.com). ASUN 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 the ASUN at (775) 784-6589 in advance so that arrangements may be conveniently made. If you would like a copy of any of the agenda items listed, please contact Fayza Salah at [Speaker@asun.unr.edu](mailto:Speaker@asun.unr.edu).



**7. REPORTS OF ASUN OFFICERS (INFORMATION ONLY)**

The Speaker shall recognize any senior officer of the Association, including the Secretary, to offer a report on his or her official activities since the previous meeting and make any summary announcements he or she deems necessary for no longer than five minutes.

**8. REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEES (INFORMATION ONLY)**

The Speaker shall recognize the chairperson of each standing committee, in alphabetical order, and then each special committee, in alphabetical order, to report for no longer than five minutes on the committee's activities since the previous meeting.

- a. Chair, Committee on Academics and Student Affairs, Mark Meizburger
- b. Chair, Committee on Budget and Finance, Diana Ladazuri Nova
- c. Chair, Committee on Democratic Civic Engagement, Leaf Acklin
- d. Chair, Committee on IDEA, Aween Ali
- e. Chair, Committee on Government Operations, Joel Martin
- f. Chair, Committee on Safety, Sustainability, and Wellness, Tori Beaulac
- g. Chair, Committee on Oversight, Fayza Salah
- h. Parliamentarian, Juliana Giradello
- i. Speaker Pro Tempore, Erin Schaffer

**9. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (INFORMATION ONLY)**

The speaker shall recognize in turn senators requesting the floor for a period not to exceed two minutes. The total time for Comments and Announcements before the first reading of legislation shall not exceed fifteen minutes.

**10. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK APPOINTMENTS (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

The motion to fast track a resolution or appointment confirmation shall be in order if recommended by the committee of relevant jurisdiction.

- a. **The following nominations have been submitted to the Speaker of the Senate:**
  - i. **NOMINATION OF ARTHUR-JAMES OKWUOSA TO THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF IDEA.** The Senate will consider the above-named nomination to Association office. The Senate may consider the character, professional competence, physical or mental health, or other matters permissible under NRS 241.033 during consideration of this item. Under NRS 241.031, the meeting may not be closed. When the Senate has concluded its deliberations, they may approve the nomination, or take no action.
  - ii. **NOMINATION OF MATTHEW SAULS TO THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY.** The Senate will consider the above-named nomination to Association office. The Senate may consider the character, professional competence, physical or mental health, or other matters permissible under NRS 241.033 during consideration of this item. Under NRS 241.031, the meeting may not be closed. When the Senate has concluded its deliberations, they may approve the nomination, or take no action. .
  - iii. **NOMINATION OF EMMA THOMSEN TO THE OFFICE OF SENATOR FOR THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.** The Senate will consider the above-

named nomination to Association office. The Senate may consider the character, professional competence, physical or mental health, or other matters permissible under NRS 241.033 during consideration of this item. Under NRS 241.031, the meeting may not be closed. When the Senate has concluded its deliberations, they may approve the nomination, or take no action.

- iv. **NOMINATION OF THOMAS VASILE TO THE OFFICE OF SENATOR FOR THE COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING.** The Senate will consider the above-named nomination to Association office. The Senate may consider the character, professional competence, physical or mental health, or other matters permissible under NRS 241.033 during consideration of this item. Under NRS 241.031, the meeting may not be closed. When the Senate has concluded its deliberations, they may approve the nomination, or take no action.
- v. **NOMINATION OF ANTONY KUHL TO THE OFFICE OF SENATOR FOR THE COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING.** The Senate will consider the above-named nomination to Association office. The Senate may consider the character, professional competence, physical or mental health, or other matters permissible under NRS 241.033 during consideration of this item. Under NRS 241.031, the meeting may not be closed. When the Senate has concluded its deliberations, they may approve the nomination, or take no action.

## **11. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS OF SENATORS AND ASUN OFFICIALS (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

The Senate will consider the following nominations for Association office. When the Senate has concluded its deliberations, the Senate may approve the nomination, reject the nomination, or take no action upon the nomination.

- a. **The following nominations have been submitted to the Speaker of the Senate:**
  - i. **NOMINATION OF ARTHUR-JAMES OKWUOSA TO THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF IDEA.** The Senate will consider the above-named nomination to Association office. The Senate may consider the character, professional competence, physical or mental health, or other matters permissible under NRS 241.033 during consideration of this item. Under NRS 241.031, the meeting may not be closed. When the Senate has concluded its deliberations, they may approve the nomination, or take no action.
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## **12. VETO MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

The Senate may reconsider acts vetoed by the ASUN President if they are returned by the President with his objections.

- a. **There are no veto messages at this time.**

## **13. CONSENT AGENDA (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

The Speaker shall sequentially proceed through such acts of legislation that have previously been placed on the consent agenda. Such acts shall be considered adopted by consent unless a single senator rises in objection thereto. All acts so objected are immediately placed on the end of the agenda for second reading.

- a. **The following nominations have been submitted to the Speaker of the Senate:**
  - i. **NOMINATION OF ARTHUR-JAMES OKWUOSA TO THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF IDEA.** The Senate will consider the above-named nomination to Association office. The Senate may consider the character, professional competence, physical or mental health, or other matters permissible under NRS 241.033 during consideration of this item. Under NRS 241.031, the meeting may not be closed. When the Senate has concluded its deliberations, they may approve the nomination, or take no action.
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#### **14. FIRST READING OF LEGISLATION (INFORMATION ONLY)**

The following bills and resolutions will receive their first reading and may be considered under item 16 of this agenda:

- a. **The following legislation has been submitted to the Speaker of the Senate:**
  - i. **S.B 91.- AN ACT AMENDING THE DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

#### **15. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK LEGISLATION (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

A senator may move that legislation under item 16 of this agenda be considered at this meeting. Such a motion shall only be in order provided that a one-day notice has been given to the speaker. The motion shall be decided without debate and shall require the consent of a two-thirds majority of the senate.

- a. **The following legislation has been submitted to the Speaker of the Senate:**
  - i. **S.B 91.- AN ACT AMENDING THE DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

#### **16. REFERRALS TO COMMITTEE (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

The Speaker shall refer all legislation read the first time and not fast tracked to committee.

- a. **No legislation has been submitted to the Speaker of the Senate at this time.**

#### **17. SECOND READING OF LEGISLATION (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

The following bills and resolutions will receive their second reading and may be considered:

- a. **The following legislation has been submitted to the Speaker of the Senate:**

i. **S.B 91.- AN ACT AMENDING THE DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

a. **Committee Changes and Additions**

The Senate may make changes to committee assignments.

b. **Senator Reports**

Senators that may like to report on any progress they have made in ASUN-related projects may share.

**18. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (INFORMATION ONLY)**

The Speaker shall recognize in turn Senators requesting the floor for a period not to exceed two minutes.

**19. PUBLIC COMMENT (INFORMATION ONLY)**

The Speaker may elect to take public comment on items on or off this agenda. The Speaker may impose reasonable limits on the length members of the public may speak.

**20. ADJOURNMENT**

*Notes:*

*Items on the agenda may be taken out of order. The Senate may combine two or more agenda items for consideration. The Senate may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time. Please email the Senate Secretary at [senatesecretary@asun.unr.edu](mailto:senatesecretary@asun.unr.edu) as soon as possible to arrange for appropriate accommodation should need any.*

*Requests for supporting material for an agenda item should be directed to the Archives of the Associated Students. All other inquiries should be directed to Speaker Salah at "[speaker@asun.unr.edu](mailto:speaker@asun.unr.edu)."*



From: Boris Carpio Guerra,  
President of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada

TO: Speaker of the Senate for the 91st Session, Fayza Salah

Date: May 11, 2023

RE: Memo for Executive Board Nominations to be seen on May 17, 2023

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Hello, Speaker Salah and the Senate of the 91st Session!

I am nominating the following individuals for their respective offices:

1. Nomination of Arthur-James Okwuosa to the office of Director for the Department of IDEA
2. Nomination of Matthew Sauls to the office of Director for the Department of Sustainability

With empowerment,

Boris Carpio Guerra

*Associated Students of the University of Nevada*



FROM: Dawson Deal, Director of Government Affairs  
TO: Fayza Salah, Speaker of the Senate  
DATE: May 11, 2023  
RE: Fast Track S.B.91: An Act Amending the Department of Government Affairs

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Speaker Salah and Senators of the 91<sup>st</sup> Session,

I am requesting a motion to fast track **S.B.91: An Act Amending the Department of Government Affairs**. As we are currently accepting applications and beginning interviews for open positions for the 91<sup>st</sup> Session and this piece is time sensitive to an accurate and efficient hiring process for the Executive Branch.

I strongly urge the Senate body to support the fast track of this legislation so it may be considered and voted on Wednesday, May 17, 2023.

Diplomatically yours,

Dawson R. Deal  
*Director of Government Affairs*



[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

91ST SESSION  
2023-2024

**S. B. 91st-**  
**AN ACT AMENDING THE DEPARTMENT**  
**OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

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IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

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MAY 17TH, 2023

SUBMITTED BY SENATOR SHAFFER AND SENATOR ACKLIN ON BEHALF OF DIRECTOR OF  
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DAWSON DEAL

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**S.B. 91st-**  
**An Act amending the Department of Government Affairs**

*Whereas*, in March of 2022, the department of Government Affairs was restructured to change the Department name from Legislative affairs to Government Affairs, along with the addition of the position of Advocacy Director.;

*Whereas*, since the creation of the Advocacy Director position, along with the position of Student Outreach Coordinator, many of the duties are redundant of other positions, and over time have reflected that both of these positions do not have enough described job duties to fulfill a singular position;

*Whereas*, for the most effective Department it would be to see the distribution of the job duties of Student Outreach Coordinator ~~to with~~ the positions of Advocacy Director and Projects Director, resulting in the removal of the position of Student Outreach Coordinator;

*Whereas*, the job duties listed in the S.A.S. under Student Outreach Coordinator will be assigned to various positions within the Department of Government Affairs, so that the mission of the department is not lost;

*Be it resolved that*, various updates of name changes to be made to Sections 3; and Section 4, subsection B;

*Be it resolved that*, Section 5, subsection A clarifies the general composition of the Department;

*Be it resolved that*, Section 5, subsection B clarifies the duties of the Policy Director position;

*Be it resolved that*, Section 5, subsection C clarifies the job duties of the Advocacy Director position;

*Be it resolved that*, Section 5, subsection D clarifies the job duties of the Projects Director position;

*Be it resolved that*, Section 5, subsection E be created to clarify the collaborative duties and expectations of the Department;

*Be it further resolved that*,

- a) The position of Student Outreach Coordinator be dissolved;
- b) Addendum A, the update of job duties listed in the S.A.S., be adopted.

*Be it further enacted by the Senate of the Associated Students*,

- a) Sandra Rodriguez, Director;
- b) ASUN President Carpio Guerra;
- c) Director of Executive Affairs Isabella Hatt;
- d) Diana Landazuri Nova, Chair of Budget and Finance;

## **Addendum A**

### **CHAPTER 208: THE DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS SECTION 01: ESTABLISHMENT**

There is hereby established a Department of Government Affairs as an executive department of the Association.

#### **SECTION 02: MISSION**

The primary mission of the department is:

- a. To track local, state, federal, and global legislation to ensure that students are represented fairly.
- b. To advocate on behalf of students to the Faculty Senate, University officials, City and County officials, the NSHE Office of the Chancellor, Nevada State Government and the Nevada Congressional Delegation and any other governing or legislative body that could affect students.
- c. To report to the Association on relevant legislative happenings of the aforementioned bodies, and offer possibilities for involvement or collaboration.
- d. To provide advice and recommendations to the President.
- e. To educate students about legislative issues that affects them.
- f. To execute general campaign strategies adopted by the Department of Government Affairs set forth on behalf of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada.
- g. To present to the Committee on Democratic Civic Engagement with a list of recommended legislative priorities no later than Dead Day of the Fall semester.
- h. Other matters properly relating thereto.

#### **SECTION 03: ~~STRUCTURE~~ DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS**

a. IN GENERAL:

There is a Director of Government Affairs, appointed by the President, with the consent of the Senate.

b. HEAD OF DEPARTMENT:

The Director is the head of the Department and shall have direction and authority over it.

c. FUNCTIONS:

1. The Director shall provide non-partisan advice to the President, and frame recommendations for the President to advance student interests.
2. The Director shall coordinate with the Vice President of Government and Community Engagement, or equivalent person, for the University of Nevada.
3. The Director may delegate any of the Director's functions to any other officer, employee, or organizational unit of the Department. All other officers shall be appointed by the Director.
4. The Director must attend all Committee on Democratic Civic Engagement meetings or must designate the Assistant Director to attend in their absence.
5. The Director shall present a new appointment to the Senate within the following two weeks of said committee or Senate meeting if an executive appointment is reported unfavorably by the Senate committee on Oversight or if an appointee is not passed by the Senate, or in the event that the Director is unable to find a qualified candidate within those two weeks, the Director must present to the Committee on Oversight and explain the circumstances.
6. The Director shall act as President if, by reason of death, resignation, removal from office, inability, or failure to qualify, there is no President, Vice President, Speaker of the

Senate, Director of Clubs and Organizations, Director of Programming, Attorney General, or Director of Public and Campus Relations to act as President.

7. To have a report read or spoken into record at minimum every other Senate meeting.
8. Responsible to attend all ASUN retreats, and trainings as decided by the President and the Director of Executive Outreach.
9. The Director should be consulted before any officer communicated with a government official in their official capacity as an ASUN Officer. Whenever possible, the Director should be included in communications with government officials or informed as soon as possible. This serves to streamline communication and preserve the reputation of the Association.

#### **SECTION 04: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**

a. **IN GENERAL:**

There is an Assistant Director of Government Affairs, nominated by the Director, with the consent of the Senate.

b. **DUTIES FUNCTIONS:**

The Assistant Director shall:

1. Help coordinate and oversee the logistics, programming, research, and policy analysis of the Department.
2. Serve as support in conducting student-led lobbying efforts at all levels of government.
3. Act as the Director of **Legislative Government** Affairs in the absence of or at the request of the Director.
4. Plan, organize, and execute the curriculum of the Government **Relations Affairs** Internship Program to include:
  - i. Producing the education components twice a semester to include sentiments such as:  
Policy Analysis, Student-led lobbying efforts, the Nevada Legislature and State Government Structure, Voter Registration, History of Nevada Politics, Policies that have impacted Higher Education, the Board of Regents, ASUN governing documents, data analysis, time management, leadership skills, and other topics related thereto.
  - ii. Presentations or guest speakers that increase the learning mission of the program.
  - iii. Coordinating a system where interns will report to the officer in the Department of Government Affairs that the Assistant Director of Government Affairs deems appropriate.
5. Responsible to attend all ASUN retreats, and trainings as decided by the Director of **Legislative Government** Affairs and the Director of Executive Outreach.

#### **SECTION 05: DEPARTMENT COMPOSITION**

a. **IN GENERAL:**

1. There is a Policy Director, nominated by the Director, with the consent of the Senate; a Advocacy Director, nominated by the Director, with the consent of the Senate; and a Projects Director, nominated by the Director, with the consent of the Senate.

b. **POLICY DIRECTOR AND ADVOCACY DIRECTOR**

1. ~~There is a Policy Director, nominated by the Director, with the consent of the Senate, and a Policy Analyst, nominated by the Director, with the consent of the Senate.~~
2. The Policy Director shall: ~~develop strategic short term and long term policies for appropriate bodies to consider. The Policy Director shall keep the Director of Legislative Affairs apprised of Local, State, Federal, and Global policy as instructed by the Director of Legislative Affairs.~~
  - i. Routinely send out policy briefs and a newsletter detailing relevant news events on the local, state, federal, and global level;
  - ii. Develop strategic short-term and long-term policies for appropriate bodies to consider; and

- iii. Keep the Director of Government Affairs apprised of Local, State, Federal, and Global policy as instructed by the Director of Government Affairs.
  - 3. ~~The Policy Director shall routinely send out policy briefs and a newsletter detailing relevant news events on the local, state, federal, and global level.~~
  - 4. ~~The Advocacy Director will track the legislative process, sit in on external meetings, and connect students to their representatives to voice their opinions. The Advocacy Director will register as a lobbyist during school years which the Nevada State legislature will be in session. The Policy Director and Advocacy Director will work under the direction of the Government Affairs Director to identify opportunities for advocacy on relevant issues.~~
- c. **ADVOCACY DIRECTOR**
  - 1. The Advocacy Director shall:
    - i. Track the legislative process, sit in on external meetings, and connect students to their representatives to voice their opinions;
    - ii. Facilitate and organize efforts to gauge students and interests in opinions on various issues; and
    - iii. Register as a lobbyist during school years in which the Nevada State legislature will be in session.
- d. **PROJECTS DIRECTOR AND STUDENT OUTREACH COORDINATOR**
  - 1. ~~There is a Projects Director, nominated by the Director, with the consent of the Senate, and a Student Outreach Coordinator, nominated by the Director, with the consent of the Senate.~~
  - 2. The Projects Director shall ~~coordinate and organize any grassroots events, voter registration drivers, and efforts to educate and empower students. The Projects Coordinator shall assist the Projects Director in their efforts.~~
    - i. Lead department outreach efforts such as but not limited to student town halls, tabling, and discussions;
    - ii. Coordinate and organize other grassroots events, voter registration drivers, and efforts to educate and empower students.
  - 3. ~~The Student Outreach Coordinator shall facilitate and organize efforts to gauge students and interests in opinions on various issues. They should lead department outreach efforts such as but not limited to student town halls, tabling, and discussions. Additionally, they should assist the Projects Director to ensure events are representative and inclusive of all students' interests.~~
  - 4. ~~The Student Outreach Coordinator and Advocacy Director shall work together to provide opportunities for student involvement in the legislative process.~~
- e. **DEPARTMENT COLLABORATION**
  - 1. The Projects Director and Advocacy Director shall work together to provide opportunities for student involvement in the legislative process.
  - 2. The Advocacy Director and Policy Director shall work together to identify opportunities for advocacy on relevant issues.
  - 3. The Policy Director and Projects Director shall work together to ensure appropriate events are educational and include any necessary materials such as policy briefs
- f. **GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS INTERNS**

The Assistant Director shall oversee the Government Affairs Internship Program. Responsibilities include: managing interns, creating and executing, the curriculum for the Government Affairs Interns.

## SECTION 06: AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Chapter.