



Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada

91st Session, 2023-2024

AN ACT CODIFYING THE PASSION FUND

Bill Number: 11

Authored By: Senator Beaulac on behalf of President Boris Carpio Guerra and Vice President Hannah Dayna Alquiza

Sponsored By: 2023-2024 Student Government Assembly

Whereas, the University of Nevada, Reno boasts an extensive array of 250 distinct clubs and organizations, each playing a vital role in enhancing the college journey, fostering personal development, social connections, and professional preparedness;

Whereas, clubs and organizations are integral components of campuses worldwide, offering students opportunities to explore and cultivate their interests while honing their leadership, social, and teamwork abilities;

Whereas, the Associated Students of the University of Nevada, Reno should always strive to create a more diverse and inclusive environment for low-income students;

Whereas, despite the multitude of benefits associated with membership in clubs and organizations, including increased retention rates, low-income students are less likely to participate compared to their more affluent peers;¹²

Whereas, it is imperative to acknowledge that the financial challenges hindering student participation in clubs and organizations disproportionately affect students of color, emphasizing the urgent need to institutionalize support;³

¹ Kampf, Stephen, and Eric J. Teske. "Collegiate Recreation Participation and Retention." *Recreational Sports Journal*, vol. 37, no. 2, Oct. 2013, pp. 85–96, <https://doi.org/10.1123/rsj.37.2.85>.

² Kezar, A. J., Walpole, M., & Perna, L. W. (2015). *Engaging low-income students*. In S. J. Quaye & S. R. Harper (Eds.), *Student engagement in higher education: Theoretical perspectives and practical approaches for diverse populations* (pp. 237-255). New York, NY: Routledge.

³ Taylor, Morgan, and Jonathan Turk. "A Look at Low-Income Undergraduates." *Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education*, American Council on Education, 19 Nov. 2019, www.equityinhighered.org/resources/ideas-and-insights/race-and-ethnicity-in-higher-education-a-look-at-low-income-undergraduates/.

Whereas, the Associated Students of the University of Nevada, Reno should continuously endeavor to alleviate the financial strain associated with attending college;

Whereas, during the 91st session, President Guerra and Vice President Alquiza prioritized acknowledging these financial challenges and spearheaded efforts to alleviate them through the establishment of the Passion Fund;

Whereas, the Passion Fund provides financial assistance to students seeking to join registered student organizations, ensuring they can fully engage in their organization's programs and events by covering membership dues;

Whereas, the Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada, Reno approved the Passion Fund for \$10,000 during the 91st Session, and it has since provided continuous support to students;

Whereas, the budget every year is determined by the President of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada, and to ensure the longevity of the Passion Fund, it is crucial to codify it into the Statutes of the Associated Students;

Whereas, beyond the general significance of the Passion Fund, codifying it will ensure consistent funding and institutionalized support for students in dire need;

Whereas, by providing funding and support, the Passion Fund empowers students to explore their interests, develop leadership skills, and forge meaningful connections within the campus community;

Whereas, the codification of the Passion Fund into the Statutes of the Associated Students represents a significant step towards fostering inclusivity, equity, and student empowerment within our campus community;

Be it enacted, Addendum A be adopted;

Be it further enacted, that a copy of the legislation be sent to the following:

- Director of the Center for Student Engagement, Sandra Rodriguez
- Assistant Director of Clubs and Organizations, Shannon Owens
- Assistant Director of Accounting, Wei Jiang
- President of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada, Boris Carpio Guerra

- Vice President of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada, Hannah Dayna

Alquiza

Adopted in Senate on April 3, 2024

Attest:

Fayza Salah, Speaker of the Senate

Boris Carpio Guerra, President of the Associated Students

I certify that this Act originated in the Senate.

Ally Chavez, Senate Secretary

Addendum A

TITLE XVII:**CHAPTER 1701: The Guerra-Alquiza Passion Fund****SECTION 01: ESTABLISHMENT**

There is hereby a service offered withing the Association called the Guerra-Alquiza Passion Fund.

SECTION 02: PURPOSE

The purpose of this service is to alleviate financial barriers and provide support for students seeking to actively engage in extracurricular activities through registered student organizations.

SECTION 03: ADMINISTRATION

The service shall be administered by the Center of Student Engagement

SECTION 04: ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for the support under this chapter, a student shall:

- a) Meet the eligibility requirements of the club for which they are seeking funds;
- b) Have exhausted all financial aid available;
- c) Maintain at least a 2.00 GPA.

SECTION 05: AUTHORIZAON OF APPROPRIATIONS

There is hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to support this service.