

Special Committee on Food Insecurity

Senate of the Associated Students 93rd Session

Agenda for The 20th of June 6/20/2025, at 4:00pm

In-Person: President's Conference Room located in the ASUN Center for Student Engagement

Zoom: <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/85345682138?pwd=sJLA4aNu587GJ0j1MwtHCW94304YOj.1>

Meeting ID: 853 4568 2138

Passcode: asun93

Email Senator Saporito for any problems with the Zoom link: senatorSaporito@asun.unr.edu

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting for the Special Committee on Food Insecurity was called to order at 4:04 PM on June 20, 2025 in the Frankie Sue Del Papas Presidents Conference Room and over Zoom.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge that the University of Nevada, Reno is situated on the traditional homelands of the Numu (Northern Paiute), Wašiw (Washoe), Newe (Western Shoshone), Nuwu (Southern Paiute) peoples. These lands continue to be a gathering place for Indigenous peoples and we recognize the deep connections to these places. We extend our appreciation for the opportunity to live and learn on their territory

3. ROLL CALL

Roll Call must be listed by Secretaries.

- a. Chair Saporito — Present on Zoom
- b. Vice Chair Houghtelling — Absence Excused
- c. Senator Atkinson — Present on Zoom
- d. Senator Levy — Present on Zoom
- e. Senator Moss — Present on Zoom
- f. Senator Issa — Present

4. 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.

- Members of the public may participate in the meeting without being physically present by submitting public comment via email to senatorSaporito@asun.unr.edu or via Zoom conference call.
- No public comment in-person, on Zoom, or submitted in writing.

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

There are no minutes to be approved at this time.

6. REPORTS (INFORMATION ONLY)

- a. Presentation on CSE Civic Engagement Survey – Sandra Rodriguez
 - Sandra Rodriguez, Director for the Center of Student Engagement, held a report summarizing the statistics analyzed in the CSE's Civic Engagement Survey ranging from 2020 – 2024. The report clarified information on statistics regarding university volunteerism rates/community service hours, the trends found in voter turnout/civic

attitudes, and the correlations identified between those suffering from food insecurity, housing insecurity, and diminishing academic performance. The Director's presentation was stopped by the Chair at 4:33 PM.

- At 4:34 PM, Alexander Saporito, Chair for the Special Committee, had to restart the Zoom meeting, as he was using an account with the most Basic Plan, which limited his zoom meetings to only 30 minutes. After a two-minute recess, Chair Saporito started a second Zoom Meeting and the committee was called back to order, reconvening at 4:36 PM.
- Director Rodriguez continued her presentation for the Special Committee after the reconvening. The presentation then dived into the retention rates UNR's platform Give-pulse has received since the pandemic, helping offer a picture of the student body's volunteerism over the last four years. Identified correlations determining that students who actively civically engage in their own University are more likely to civically engage at the local, state, or federal level.

b. Presentation on Pillars/Mission Statement for SCFI – Alexander Saporito

- Chair Saporito would begin his report regarding the Four pillars for the Special Committee on Food Insecurity.

Discovery

- Purpose: To establish a robust intellectual foundation that informs all other committee initiatives.
- Overview:
 - Conduct and compile comprehensive research on food insecurity affecting the campus community.
 - Continuously review both new and historical data to better inform decisions and support services.
 - Develop a compiled research packet over the course of the 93rd session to present to the University President and Senate Table.
- Action Points:
 - Deliver periodic presentations to the Senate Table to demonstrate the committee's effectiveness.
 - Use research as a persuasive tool to secure institutional support for food insecurity services.

Outreach

- Purpose: To build a strong physical foundation through external engagement and partnerships.
- Overview:
 - Establish and maintain relationships with local nonprofits, advocacy groups, and external partners in Reno and Carson City.
 - Develop liaison positions within the committee to coordinate outreach both on- and off-campus.
- Action Points:
 - Identify and assign liaisons to key organizations.

- Prioritize relationship-building to support student needs and raise the committee's visibility in the local community.

Collaboration

- Purpose: To strengthen internal campus relationships and integrate with university departments and student organizations.
- Overview:
 - Focus on communication and collaboration with various campus entities to create unified support systems.
 - Participate in and support events hosted by other university organizations to foster mutual cooperation.
- Key Campus Partners (not limited to):
 - Sustainability
 - Wellness
 - Pack Provisions
 - Government Affairs
 - Committee on Student Services and Wellness (SSW)
 - Faculty Senate
 - Pack Rides
 - Counseling Services
- Action Points:
 - Establish working relationships with the above departments.
 - Offer committee assistance during university events to build trust and presence on campus.

Action

- Purpose: To activate on-the-ground efforts that directly engage and serve the student body.
- Overview:
 - Emphasize civic engagement, volunteerism, and public awareness around food insecurity.
 - Encourage student involvement through platforms like Give Pulse.
- Ongoing & Planned Initiatives:
 - Participation in food drives (e.g., Pack the Pantry – Feb. 2025).
 - Engagement in awareness weeks (e.g., Eating Disorder Awareness Week, Pack Provisions Giving Day).
 - Tabling and educational events in high-traffic student areas (e.g., KC Rotunda).
 - Begin planning for a dedicated Food Insecurity Awareness Week/Day in collaboration with SSW, to be implemented during the 94th session.
- Action Points:
 - Mobilize volunteers for upcoming events.
 - Coordinate with event organizers and campus departments for collaborative programming.

7. OLD BUSINESS (INFORMATION ONLY/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

There is no old business to be discussed.

8. NEW BUSINESS (INFORMATION ONLY/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

There is no new business to be discussed.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT (INFORMATION ONLY)

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- No public comment in-person, on Zoom, or submitted in writing.

10. ADJOURNMENT

- Chair Saporito adjourns the meeting at 4:59 PM on June 20th in the Frankie Sue Del Papas Presidents Conference Room and on Zoom.

11. NOTES.

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 the Committee Chair at (775) 784-6589 in advance so that arrangements may be conveniently made.



Posted at the ASUN Offices in the Joe Crowley Student Union, Frandsen Humanities Building, the Penning Student Achievement Center, the Mathewson IGT Knowledge Center and online at www.nevadaasun.com. Requests for supporting material for an agenda should be directed to the Archives of the Associated Students. All other inquiries should be directed to Senator Saporito at senatorSaporito@asun.unr.edu.

Special Committee on Food Insecurity

Meeting Minutes

June 20th, 2025

Opening

The meeting for the Special Committee on Food Insecurity was called to order at 4:04 PM on June 20, 2025 in the Frankie Sue Del Papas Presidents Conference Room and over Zoom.

Present

Alexander Saporito, Chair

Madison Atkinson, Committee Member

Camille Levy, Committee Member

Dillon Moss, Committee Member

Jason Issa, Committee Member

Absent

Elijah Houghtelling, Vice Chair

Public Comment

There was no public comment given at this time

Approval of Minutes

There were no minutes that needed to be approved

Reports

Sandra Rodriguez, Director for the Center of Student Engagement, held a report summarizing the statistics analyzed in the CSE's Civic Engagement Survey ranging from 2020 – 2024. The report clarified information on statistics regarding university volunteerism rates/community service hours, the trends found in voter turnout/civic attitudes, and the correlations identified between those suffering from food insecurity, housing insecurity, and diminishing academic performance. The Director's presentation was stopped by the Chair at 4:33 PM.

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Director Rodriguez continued her presentation for the Special Committee after the reconvening. The presentation then dived into the retention rates UNR's platform Give-pulse has received since the pandemic, helping offer a picture of the student body's volunteerism over the last four years. Identified correlations determining that students who actively civically engage in their own University are more likely to civically engage at the local, state, or federal level.

Once finishing the report, there were no questions to be asked by the table. Chair Saporito would begin his report regarding the Four pillars for the Special Committee on Food Insecurity.

1. Discovery

- Purpose: To establish a robust intellectual foundation that informs all other committee initiatives.
- Overview:
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 - Develop a compiled research packet over the course of the 93rd session to present to the University President and Senate Table.
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3. Collaboration

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- Action Points:
 - Mobilize volunteers for upcoming events.
 - Coordinate with event organizers and campus departments for collaborative programming.

Old Business

There was no old business to be reported.

New Business

There was no new business to be reported.

Public Comment

There was no public comment to be held at this time.

Adjournment

The meeting for the Special Committee on Food Insecurity was adjourned at 4:59 PM in the Frankie Sue Del Papas Presidents Conference Room.