

Committee on Democratic Civic Engagement

Senate of the Associated Students, 93rd Session

Agenda for Friday, November 7th, 2025 at 5:30 PM

Rita Laden Senate Chambers located in the 3rd floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union

<https://unr.zoom.us/j/84899948085?pwd=jWlNQmB3DrxEq5NLiyMgUSqBuVnEKW.1>

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

2. COMPLIANCE WITH NEVADA OPEN MEETING LAW

- a. Was the agenda posted three full working days by 9 am, not including the meeting date?
- b. Is the meeting taking place on the day of the week, month, day, year, at the time and location listed on the agenda?
- c. Is the Zoom link working and available to the public?
- d. If the answer to any of these questions is no, this meeting must be ENDED IMMEDIATELY unless NOML covers a legitimate correction.

3. ROLL CALL

The Secretary must list roll call.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT (INFORMATION ONLY)

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. ASUN supports providing equal access to all programs for people with disabilities. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate persons with physical disabilities who wish to attend the meeting. Please call ASUN at (775) 784-6589 in advance so that arrangements can be made conveniently. If you would like a copy of any of the agenda items listed, please contact Senator Issa at senatorIssa@asun.unr.edu.

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 actions on this agenda. The Chair may impose reasonable limits on the length of time members of the public may speak.

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

- a. 09/26/2025
- b. 10/10/2025

6. AUDIO OR MINUTES MISSING FOR PREVIOUS MEETINGS OF THIS BODY THAT DO NOT MEET 30 DAY POSTING OF NEVADA OPEN MEETING LAW

Minutes or audio file for previous meetings that are missing must be listed here with the date of each meeting.

7. REPORTS (INFORMATION ONLY)

- a. Report from Interim Director of Government Affairs, Isabelle Hatch
- b. Committee member reports
 - i. Chair Issa
 - ii. Vice Chair Radtke – Department of Government Affairs
 - iii. Senator Atkinson
 - iv. Senator Barrus
 - v. Senator Castro – President’s Office of Government Relations and Community Engagement
 - vi. Senator Dayton
 - vii. Senator Evans – Department of Campus and Public Relations
 - viii. Senator Saporito – Office of Service Learning & Civic Engagement; Veterans Services

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

- a. Liaison adoptions
 - i. Associate Director of Student Engagement
 - ii. Coordinator of Student Engagement Outreach

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. ASUN supports providing equal access to all programs for people with disabilities. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate persons with physical disabilities who wish to attend the meeting. Please call ASUN at (775) 784-6589 in advance so that arrangements can be made conveniently. If you would like a copy of any of the agenda items listed, please contact Senator Issa at senatorIssa@asun.unr.edu.

9. NEW BUSINESS (INFORMATION ONLY/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION/FOR POSSIBLE CORRECTIVE ACTION)

- a. Liaison adoption – Senator Radtke, Department of Government Affairs (For Possible Corrective Action)

10. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

- a. Liaison changes and additions

11. 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 of time members of the public may speak.

12. ADJOURNMENT

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 of an item at any time

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***Written Minutes* — Committee on Democratic Civic Engagement**

Senate of the Associated Students, 93rd Session
Agenda for Friday, September 26th, 2025 at 5:30 P.M.

In-Person: Rita Laden Senate Chambers located in the Joe Crowley Student Union, 3rd floor

Zoom Link:

<https://unr.zoom.us/j/84899948085?pwd=jWlNQmB3DrxEq5NLiyMgUSqBuVnEKW.1>

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Issa called the meeting to order at 5:31PM in the Rita Laden Senate Chambers and on Zoom.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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 the Secretary.

Chair Issa – Present

Vice Chair Moore – Absence excused

Senator Castro – Present

Senator Evans – Absence Excused

Senator Packard – Absence Unexcused

Senator Radtke – Present on Zoom

Senator Saporito – Present

4. PUBLIC COMMENT (INFORMATION ONLY)

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Members of the public may participate in the meeting without being physically present by submitting public comment via email to senatorIssa@asun.unr.edu or via Zoom conference call.

No public comment.

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

There are no minutes to be approved at this time.

6. REPORTS (INFORMATION ONLY)

There are no reports at this time.

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

There is no old business at this time.

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

a. Presentation from the Department of Government Affairs

Assistant Director Hatch, Policy Director Atencio, Projects Director Zotchi and Advocacy Director Casey provided an overview of the ASUN Department of Government Affairs. The discussion highlighted the department's ongoing efforts to foster civic engagement and strengthen connections between students and local and state government entities. The department was noted for its collaboration with other areas of ASUN and student leaders to organize voter registration drives, civic education programs, and community involvement initiatives. Emphasis was placed on ensuring that student voices are represented in governmental processes and that opportunities for active participation in civic life continue to expand.

9. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

a. Committee member reports

- i. Chair Issa – The Chair thanked the Department of Government Affairs for their presentation and noted appreciation for the insightful questions raised

by committee members. He shared that he had completed most of his one-on-one check-ins with members, observing a common desire for greater collaboration among ongoing projects. Moving forward, the Chair stated that discussion items will be added to the agenda for each project to encourage broader input from senators. Members were reminded that they may collaborate with others even outside of their liaison appointments—for example, assisting with the planning of the Veterans Day Luncheon. The Chair also announced that at the next Senate meeting, the Office of Government and Community Engagement will present on ways ASUN can better collaborate with their office.

- ii. Vice Chair Moore – Absent
 - iii. Senator Castro – Senator Castro reported on a recent meeting with Austin Daly from the Office of Government and Community Engagement. Topics included reviving last year’s *Discussions in Democracy* event, with potential participation from Nevada legislative leaders, and launching an initiative to help students join local boards or neighborhood councils through an interest-based form that matches them with civic opportunities in their area.
 - iv. Senator Evans – Absent
 - v. Senator Packard – Absent
 - vi. Senator Radtke – Senator Radtke shared that she and the Chair met with the Director of Government Affairs to plan an event focused on voter registration and education. She added that they will meet with the Director of IDEA to continue planning and invited other members to participate in organizing the event.
 - vii. Senator Saporito – Senator Saporito noted plans to meet with the Office of Service Learning and Community Engagement to discuss ongoing collaborations, though a prior meeting had to be rescheduled due to an exam.
- b. Liaison changes and additions
- Senator Saporito moved to place himself on the liaison for Veterans Services through unanimous consent, seconded by Senator Castro. Motion carried.

10.COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair will recognize Committee members requesting the floor for the purpose of miscellaneous reports and requests. The Chair may impose reasonable limits on the length members the Committee may speak.

No comments or announcements.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT (INFORMATION ONLY)

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No public comment.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Issa adjourns the meeting at 6:09PM in the Rita Laden Senate Chambers and on Zoom.

NOTES

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***Written Minutes* — Committee on Democratic Civic Engagement**

Senate of the Associated Students, 93rd Session
Agenda for Friday, October 10th, 2025 at 5:30 P.M.

In-Person: Rita Laden Senate Chambers located in the Joe Crowley Student Union, 3rd floor

Zoom Link:

<https://unr.zoom.us/j/84899948085?pwd=jWINQmB3DrxEq5NLiyMgUSqBuVnEKW.1>

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Issa called the meeting of the Committee on Democratic Civic Engagement to order at 5:33 p.m. in the Rita Laden Senate Chambers and via Zoom

2. COMPLIANCE WITH NEVADA OPEN MEETING LAW

- a. Was the agenda posted three full working days by 9 am, not including the meeting date? [<https://nevadaasun.com/meetings/>]
- b. Is the meeting taking place on the day of the week, month, day, year, at the time and location listed on the agenda?
- c. Is the Zoom link working and available to the public?

If the answer to any of these questions is no, this meeting must be ENDED IMMEDIATELY unless NOML covers a legitimate correction.

All conditions are met.

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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.

4. ROLL CALL

Roll call must be listed by the Secretary.

Chair Issa – Present

Senator Castro – Present

Senator Evans – Present

Senator Radtke – Present

Senator Saporito – Present

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 Chair may elect to take public comment on actions 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 senatorIssa@asun.unr.edu or via Zoom conference call.

No public comment was submitted.

6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

- a. 05/28
- b. 07/09
- c. 07/30
- d. 09/12

Chair Issa sought a motion to approve all minutes by unanimous consent. The motion was made by Senator Castro and seconded by Senator Evans. With no dissent or abstentions, the minutes were approved unanimously.

7. REPORTS (INFORMATION ONLY)

- a. Report from the Director of Government Affairs, Kennedy Taylor

A written report was submitted by Director Taylor and read by Chair Issa.

Highlights included:

- Civic Engagement Week (Oct. 27–30):

- *Oct. 27:* Financial Insecurity Panel (5:00–6:30 PM)
 - *Oct. 28:* Tabling on Nevada government structure
 - *Oct. 29:* Tentative voter registration event with the Washoe County Registrar of Voters
 - *Oct. 30:* “Civic Self-Care” with resources and giveaways
 - Work on the FAQ sheet for the upcoming NSHE Chancellor presentation
 - Attending Reno City Council on Oct. 22 for stakeholder engagement
 - Participation in the NSHE Food and Financial Insecurity Study, with remarks from Assemblymember Mosca
 - Encouraged committee members to share updates to include in her departmental reporting
- b. Committee member reports
- i. Chair Issa – Reported collaboration with Senators Evans, McAndrews, Saporito, and Barrus on projects such as the State of the Senate Canvas page and Veterans Day Luncheon, and coordination with Kathy Castro on future engagement event.
 - ii. Senator Castro – President’s Office of Government and Community Engagement – Had no additional report since liaison contact Austin Daly from the Office of Government Relations was presenting later in the meeting.
 - iii. Senator Evans – Department of Campus and Public Relations – Reported continued work with Chair Issa and Senator McAndrews on the State of the Senate Canvas page, and upcoming meeting with A.D. Mendoza within two weeks.
 - iv. Senator Radtke – Department of Government Affairs – Reported no updates from Director Taylor, citing this as a busy period for the Department of Government Affairs.
 - v. Senator Saporito – Office of Service Learning & Civic Engagement; Veterans Services – Noted ongoing efforts to coordinate with Matthew Little from the Office of Service Learning and Civic Engagement, and meetings with Chairman Cook, Speaker Acklin, and Chair Issa regarding Veterans Day Luncheon planning and merchandise logistics.

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

There is no old business at this time.

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

- a. Presentation from the President’s Office of Government Relations and Community Engagement

Austin Daly provided an in-depth overview of the Office's roles and accomplishments, including:

- Legislative advocacy:
 - Representing UNR at federal, state, and local levels. Coordinating University Day at the Legislature, the largest advocacy day in campus history.
 - Securing significant funding for projects such as:
 - \$22M for university operational expenses
 - \$6.2M for the planned Black Sciences Building
 - \$9M for graduate medical education expansion
 - \$20M for nursing program expansion
- Community initiatives:
 - Support for UndocuPack and the Latino Research Center.
 - Launch of the Collegiate Academy (7,000+ enrolled students statewide).
 - Development of University of Nevada Day (Nov. 26) with City of Reno.
 - Collaboration with ASUN and student leaders to connect students to local boards, commissions, and nonprofit organizations
- Questions and discussion:
 - Senator Saporito inquired about communication consistency with the legislature and the status of AB-353 (tablet funding).
 - Senator Radtke asked whether the GSR Arena would host events beyond sports.
 - Senator Issa asked about student lobbying engagement during legislative sessions.
 - Senators Castro and Evans discussed improving ASUN's database for student opportunities and connecting students to local government or nonprofit board positions

The Chair and committee thanked Mr. Daly for his detailed presentation and responses.

b. Election of a Vice Chair

Senator Castro nominated Senator Radtke to be Vice Chair. Senator Radtke was elected unanimously.

c. Veterans Day Luncheon Discussion

Chair Issa and Senator Saporito provided brief updates on event coordination, merchandise, and venue outreach with Veterans Services and the KC Rotunda. Senator Castro recommended collaboration with the American Legion.

- d. Liaison adoptions
 - i. Associate Director of Student Engagement
 - ii. Coordinator of Student Engagement Outreach

These assignments were discussed and deferred for formal adoption at a future meeting.

10. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

- a. Liaison changes and additions

No additional liaison changes or additions were made at this time.

11. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair will recognize Committee members requesting the floor for the purpose of miscellaneous reports and requests. The Chair may impose reasonable limits on the length members the Committee may speak.

Chair Issa thanked Austin Daly for his presentation and committee members for their continued collaboration.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT (INFORMATION ONLY)

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No public comment was made or submitted.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Issa adjourned the meeting at 6:18 p.m. in the Rita Laden Senate Chambers and on Zoom.

NOTES

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