

# Committee on Academic and Student Affairs

Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada 93rd Session

Agenda for Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 4:30 pm

Frankie Sue Del Papa Conference Room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union

Zoom Link:

<https://unr.zoom.us/j/86571982903?pwd=ZV1gen6SViRRQqbDZsvaVz3TW7bHUB.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?
  - <https://nevadaasun.com/meetings/committee-on-aca...-student-affairs/>
- 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?

## 3. 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 their 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.

## 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 action items on this agenda. The Chair may impose reasonable limits on the length members of the public may speak.

## 6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- 3-2-2026
- 3-16-2026

## 7. OLD BUSINESS (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION OR POSSIBLE CORRECTIVE ACTION)

There is no old business at this time.

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

- a. Expectations for committee members regarding the conclusion of the 93<sup>rd</sup> Session

## **9. SENATOR REPORTS**

- a. Chair Kitch- Office of the Provost
- b. Vice Chair Hoang- Student Services, Student Life Services
- c. Senator Atkinson- Academic Advising
- d. Senator Benuto- Residence Hall Association
- e. Senator Bhardwaj- Nevada State Undergraduate Research Journal
- f. Senator Calderon- Admissions and Records
- g. Senator Dayton- Nevada Career Studio
- h. Senator DeBarger- University Libraries
- i. Senator Issa- Faculty Senate, Office of Digital Learning
- j. Senator Lawson- Greek Life

## **10. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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.

## **11. 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.

**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, online at [www.nevadaasun.com](http://www.nevadaasun.com)., and online at [notice.nv.gov](http://notice.nv.gov). 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 contact Chair Kitch at [senatorkitch@asun.unr.edu](mailto:senatorkitch@asun.unr.edu) in advance so that arrangements may be conveniently made. If you would like a copy of any of the agenda items listed, please contact Chair Kitch at [senatorkitch@asun.unr.edu](mailto:senatorkitch@asun.unr.edu).

# Committee on Academic and Student Affairs

Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada 93rd Session

Agenda for Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026, at 4:30 pm

Frankie Sue Del Papa Conference Room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union

Zoom Link:

<https://unr.zoom.us/j/86571982903?pwd=ZV1gcn6SViRRQqbDZsvaVz3TW7bHUb.1>

## 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- Chair Kith called the Committee of Academic and Student Affairs meeting to order on Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026, at 4:32 pm in the Frankie Sue Del Papa Conference Room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union on Zoom. Presiding Secretary, Doga Akyurek.

## 2. COMPLIANCE WITH NEVADA OPEN MEETING LAW

- a. Was the agenda posted three full working days by 9 am, not including the meeting date?
  - Yes.
- b. Is the meeting taking place on the day of the week, month, day, year, at the time and location listed on the agenda?
  - Yes.
- c. Is the Zoom link working and available to the public?
  - Yes.

## 3. 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 their deep connections to these places. We extend our appreciation for the opportunity to live and learn on their territory.”

## 4. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Kitch, Vice Chair Hoang, Senator DeBarger, Senator Lawson, Senator Dayton, Senator Benuto

Absence Excused: Senator Bhardwaj, Senator Atkinson

Tardy Excused: Senator Issa, Senator Calderon,

A quorum is present.

## 5. PUBLIC COMMENT

- No public comment currently.

## 6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- There are no minutes to be approved at this time.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Discussion with Director Matthew Little from the Office of Community-Engaged Learning & Leadership regarding the Faculty Service Learning Award and the \$500 Award supported by ASUN

- Chair Kitch introduced Director Matthew Little to the committee and explained the Award and its mission as well.

*Senator Benuto entered to the room at 4:35 pm.*

- Director Little explained that since stepping into the role in August 2023, they have been working to shift their program's focus from traditional service learning to a broader, more inclusive community – engaged learning approach. This shift is influenced by the university's unique recognition as both a research-intensive institution and one with the Carnegie Community Engagement classification. Additionally, Director Little mentioned that they have been wanting to rename and expand the award to be more inclusive of both academic and administrative contributors. Director Little also noted that funding for the award is available (currently \$500, with possible expansion), and they emphasized the importance of updating the award in a way that aligns with policy.
- Chair Kitch expressed that she supports promoting the award and changing its name through a bylaw update, likely via a binding resolution, aiming to complete it in the next few meetings for the upcoming session. Chair Kitch invited senators to discuss on the matter.
- Senator Lawson asked when the award is given.
- Director Little answered that it will be in May.
- Senator Lawson asked a follow up question with saying if the piece is written, if it will affect next year.
- Chair Kitch and Director Little responded that it will affect next year.
- Senator DeBarger asked for clarification on how long the award was funded from the Director's office budget and whether there was a miscommunication, since funding had already been available.
- Director Little explained that when they stepped into the role, there was no record indicating ASUN was funding the award, so they only realized this connection and financial support this year.
- Chair Kitch noted that although the award is supposed to be handled by the ASA committee, it hasn't really been managed that way in the past, which she wants to fix. She added that she is unsure where funds currently are or if they get into to the Senate Budget.

*Senator Calderon entered the room at 4:41 pm.*

- Chair Kitch opened another discussion on changing the award name.
- Senator Issa asked if there is a proposed alternative name for the award.
- Director Little answered that there is no proposed names yet but they emphasized the need to expand the award beyond just service-learning instructors while they are being open to renaming and revising it to be more inclusive.
- Senator Dayton expressed that she is in favor of this name change.

- Senator DeBarger proposed “ASUN Community Engagement Faculty” as it could be new name for the award.
- Director Little expressed that they are in favor of this proposal.
- Senator Lawson proposed increasing the awards amount to \$750 or \$1000.
- Chair Kitch responded that it will be needed to discuss with Luis.
- Senator Issa suggested using committee funds to reimburse the office for past expenses.
- Senator DeBarger asks whether if reimbursement or increasing the award amount or number of recipients using the available excess funds.
- Director Little says budget limitations prevent reimbursement, but they are comfortable increasing the award to \$1,000 for the next to years as a temporary solution while a more permanent funding plan is developed.

b. Liaison Adoptions and Changes

Open Liaison Positions:

- Admissions and Records- VACANT
- Senator Calderon seeks motion to move himself to the Admissions and Records liaison position.
- Seconded by Senator Lawson.
- No descend found.
- The motion passed.
- Student Life Services- VACANT
- Senator Benuto seeks motion to move himself to the Student Life Services liaison position.
- Seconded by Senator Dayton.
- No descend found.
- The motion passed.

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

a. S.R. 93- A Resolution in Support of Including Steamers in Residence Halls

- Committee members generally supported the concept but raised several concerns as: Limited accessibility if only one steamer is provided per residence hall, lacking budget and grammatical errors on the piece.
- Senator Lawson moved to table S.R 93: A Resolution in Support of Including Steamers in Residence Halls indefinitely to allow for revisions and clarification.
- Seconded by Senator Issa.
- No descend found and the motion passed.

b. S.R. 93- A Resolution to Support Increased Accessibility of Peer Academic Support Services

- Committee members generally supported the resolution and highlighted its potential to improve accessibility. Committee emphasized the importance of broader access could potentially increase awareness and participation.
- Chair Kitch seeks motion to favorably recommend S.R 93: A Resolution to Support Increased Accessibility of Peer Academic Support.

- So moved by Senator Issa.
- Seconded by Senator Dayton.
- No dissent found.
- The motion passed.

c. S.R. 93- A Resolution to Publicize Student Data on Pell Eligible, Transfer, and First-Gen Students

- Committee members generally supported the intend of resolution but identified several areas for improvement. Committee emphasized that clearer language in date publishing date such as (GPA averages) would strengthen the resolution and ensure alignment wit its intended purpose.
- Chair Kitch seeks motion to favorably recommend S.R 93: A Resolution to Publicize Student Data on Pell Eligible, Transfer, and First – Gen Students to the ASUN Senate.
- Seconded by Senator Benuto.
- No dissent found and the motion passed.

## 9. SENATOR REPORTS

a. Chair Kitch- Office of the Provost

- Chair Kitch reported that she reached out to the provost Thompson’s Office and waiting their response.

b. Vice Chair Hoang- Student Services, Residence Hall Association

- No report at this time.

c. Senator Atkinson- Academic Advising

- No report at this time.

d. Senator Bhardwaj- Nevada State Undergraduate Research Journal

- No report at this time.

e. Senator Dayton- Nevada Career Studio

- No report at this time.

f. Senator DeBarger- University Libraries

- Senator DeBarger reported that she met with Catherine Cardwell, the Dean of Libraries, on February 23rd, and they discussed the Annual Report and updates to technology from the tech fee. Their four goals are to empower research, enrich the student experience and increase student success, foster inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility in all aspects of their work, and cultivate an inspiring workplace culture. The main thing she asks senators’ help spread the word about open educational resources to our professors in respective colleges. They are primarily looking to apply it in broader classes where many students can benefit. OER is a grant that gets material used in the classroom to help students learn that have been made freely available online and licensed for others to reuse them such as free online textbooks, lab guides, etc. She noted that they are always looking to expand it so if a professor interested or a class you think would work well with the program, or contact Dean Cardwell’s office yourself. Senator DeBarger added that she is looking forward to joining Senator Kitch

at an upcoming liaison meeting to the Provost's office to discuss helping the other liaison position in IDEA, the Path to Independence, get an updated registration date. Senator Issa-Faculty Senate, Office of Digital Learning.

g. Senator Lawson- Greek Life

- Senator Lawson reported that he met with Ricky from the FSL office last week to introduce himself as the liaison for the office of Greek life. He added that they had a good discussion about Greek life, legislation, and UNR. Additionally, he asked Ricky what ASUN can do for the FSL and he was very appreciative as nobody had ever asked him that before.

## **10. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- No public comment at this time.

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

- Chair Kitch adjourned the meeting at 6:10 pm. On Monday, Marh 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026 in the Frankie Sue Del Papa Conference Room.

## **NOTES**

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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). 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 contact Vice Chair Hoang at [senatorhoang@asun.unr.edu](mailto:senatorhoang@asun.unr.edu) in advance so that arrangements may be conveniently made. If you would like a copy of any of the agenda items listed, please contact Chair Kitch at [senatorkitch@asun.unr.edu](mailto:senatorkitch@asun.unr.edu).

93rd SESSION  
2025-2026

**S.R. 93 -**  
**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INCLUDING**  
**STEAMERS IN RESIDENCE HALLS**

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IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

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JANUARY, 27TH, 2026

SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS BY SENATOR NUBEL  
SPONSORED BY: SENATOR EVANS

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*Whereas*, AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN STEAMERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR STUDENT USE; and

*Whereas*, including steamers inside the residence halls will be beneficial to students across the university; and

*Whereas*, including steamers within the residence halls will promote students attending career fairs; and

*Whereas*, including steamers within the residence halls will promote students attending internship fairs; and

*Whereas*, including steamers would be beneficial to professional students across campus; and

*Whereas*, steamers are essential to maintaining a professional look; and

*Whereas*, many students do not have access to their own steamers while living inside the residence halls; and

*Whereas*, the use of steamers increases confidence when students interview or present to professional businesses; and

*Whereas*, the University of Nevada, Reno states that students should bring steamers when living on campus; and

*Whereas*, in addition to physical appearance, properly steamed clothes can impact self-esteem and professionalism; and

*Whereas*, providing steamers for check out at residence halls for students (instead of urging them to bring it themselves) will benefit low-income and out-of-state students;

***THE STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA REPRESENTED IN THE SENATE, ARE RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:***

*Be it resolved*, that the Associated Students of the University of Nevada urges Residential

Life to include steamers within the residence halls; and

*Be it further resolved*, that the Associated Students of the University of Nevada encourages and supports career and internship readiness and the inclusion of steamers within residential halls would only promote that; and

*Be it further resolved*, that the Associated Students of the University of Nevada urges the University administration to implement the buying of steamers within the residential halls; and

*Be it further resolved*, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the following individuals:

- Vice President, Student Services, *Heather Speed*;
- Director, Center for Student Engagement, *VACANT*;
- Senior Associate Director, Center for Student Engagement, *Amy Koeckes*;
- Associate Director, Student Government, *Luis Aguilar-Herrera*;
- President, Associated Students, *Carmina Aglubat*;
- Vice President, Associated Students, *Ethan McNamara*;
- Speaker, 93<sup>rd</sup> Senate, Associated Students, *Leaf Acklin*;
- ASUN Senator, College of Science, *Dominic Evans*;
- Director, Department of Campus Wellness, *Emily Hohman*;
- Executive Director, Residential Life, Housing & Food Services

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

93<sup>rd</sup> SESSION

2025-2026

## **S. R. 93 -**

# **A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT INCREASED ACCESSIBILITY OF PEER ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES**

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IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

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FEBRUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2026

SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS BY SENATOR BENUTO

COSPONSORED BY PARLIAMENTARIAN ISSA, & SENATOR ATKINSON

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*Whereas*, peer academic support services at the University of Nevada, Reno such as PASS and SI Sessions are proven to improve student academic success by half to one full letter grade; and

*Whereas*, many students report barriers with regards to receiving peer academic student support, due to limited awareness and scheduling conflicts; and

*Whereas*, students balancing employment, care-giving or full courseloads may face disproportionate difficulties accessing peer academic support offered primarily during regular business hours; and

*Whereas*, equitable access to peer support services is essential to assuring that all students regardless of background or circumstance have the opportunity to succeed academically; and

*Whereas*, first-generation, transfer, and Pell-eligible students often navigate higher education systems with less institutional familiarity and may benefit significantly from accessible peer academic support networks; and

*Whereas*, disparities in utilization of academic support services may contribute to broader achievement and retention gaps among student populations; and

*Whereas*, improving accessibility, visibility, and coordination of peer academic support services aligns with the University's commitment to student success and inclusive excellence; and

*Whereas*, centralized and user-friendly communication of academic support resources increases student engagement and utilization; and

*Whereas*, expanding modality options, including hybrid, virtual, and evening support services can better meet the needs of Nevada's diverse student body;

*Be it resolved*, that the Associated Students of the University of Nevada Senate formally support efforts to increase accessibility, visibility, and coordination of peer academic support services, including PASS and Supplemental Instruction sessions; and

*Be it further resolved*, that ASUN Senate encourages the expansion of virtual peer academic support options, including live Zoom sessions with recorded versions made available to students upon request, when appropriate and in compliance with university privacy policies; and

*Be it further resolved*, that the ASUN Senate urges the University to assess and address disparities in utilization of peer academic support services among first-generation, transfer, and Pell-eligible students; and

*Be it further resolved*, that ASUN Senate supports targeted outreach initiatives to ensure historically underserved student populations are informed of and encouraged to utilize peer academic support services; and

*Be it further resolved*, that the ASUN Senate encourages collaboration between academic support offices and student leadership to regularly evaluate accessibility barriers and recommend improvements; and

*Be it further resolved*, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the following individuals:

- *University President, Brian Sandoval;*
- *Executive Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Dr. Melanie Duckworth;*
- *Executive Director of Deans Future Scholars, Dr. Mariluz Garcia;*
- *Assistant Director of Deans Future Scholars, Manuel Ortiz;*
- *Associate Director First Generation Student Center, Dr. James Beattie;*
- *President, Associated Students, Carmina Aglubat;*
- *Vice President, Associated Students, Ethan McNamara;*
- *Director of Government Affairs, Associated Students, Isabelle Hatch; and*
- *Director of Latinx/Hispanic Community Relations, Ovaldo Jimenez-Estupinan*

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

93<sup>rd</sup> SESSION

2025-2026

**S. R. 93 -**

**A RESOLUTION TO PUBLICIZE STUDENT DATA  
ON PELL ELIGIBLE, TRANSFER, AND  
FIRST-GEN STUDENTS**

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IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

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FEBRUARY, 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2026

AUTHORED BY SENATOR BENUTO Co-

AUTHORS: SENATOR CASTRO COSPONSORS

SENATOR DAYTON SUBMITTED BY SENATOR  
BENUTO TO THE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC  
AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

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## **A Resolution**

### **TO PUBLICIZE STUDENT DATA ON PELL ELIGIBLE, TRANSFER, AND FIRST GEN STUDENTS**

*Whereas, Data on topics relevant to Pell Eligible, Transfer and First-Gen student achievement is a) either not available publicly, or b) available on the website, but not found without excessive searching; and;*

*Whereas, the University of Nevada, Reno serves a significant population of Pell Grant–eligible, transfer, and first-generation students, many of whom face systemic financial, academic, and institutional barriers to persistence and graduation; and;*

*Whereas, the lack of widely publicized, disaggregated student data contributes to reduced visibility of these disparities within campus dialogue and decision-making spaces; and;*

*Whereas, acknowledging disparities is a necessary first step toward fostering transparency, awareness, and informed conversations around equity and student success; and;*

*Whereas, Pell Grant–eligible, transfer, and first-generation students are more likely to balance employment, family responsibilities, and financial insecurity while pursuing their education; and;*

*Whereas, ASUN Senate has a responsibility to represent and amplify the experiences of students whose challenges may otherwise be overlooked; and;*

*Whereas, recognizing and publicly acknowledging disparities faced by these student populations affirms their experiences and underscores the importance of equity-centered dialogue within the University of Nevada, Reno community;*

*Be it resolved, that the Associated Students of the University of Nevada Senate formally acknowledges the existence of disparities in access, retention, and educational outcomes among Pell Grant-eligible, transfer, and first-generation students at the University of Nevada, Reno; and;*

*Be it further resolved, that the Associated Students of the University of Nevada Senate affirms the importance of transparency and awareness in understanding the challenges faced by Pell Grant-Eligible, Transfer and First Generation students; and;*

*Be it further resolved, that this resolution serves as a statement of acknowledgment and awareness with the intent of informing future conversations and initiatives related to student equity and success;and;*

*Be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the following individuals:*

- *University President, Brian Sandoval;*
- *Executive Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Dr. Melanie Duckworth;*
- *Executive Director of Deans Future Scholars, Dr. Mariluz Garcia*
- *Assistant Director of Deans Future Scholars, Manuel Ortiz*
- *Director of Financial Aid, Tim Wolfe;*
- *Associate Director First Generation Student Center, Dr. James Beattie*
- *Director of Transfer Recruitment, Stephani Price;*
- *President, Associated Students, Carmina Aglubat;*
- *Vice President, Associated Students, Ethan McNamara*
- *Director of Government Affairs, Associated Students, Isabelle Hatch;*

- *Director of Latinx/Hispanic Community Relations, Ovaldo Jimenez-Estupinan*

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# Committee on Academic and Student Affairs

Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada 93rd Session

Minutes for Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 4:30 pm

Frankie Sue Del Papa Conference Room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union

Zoom Link:

<https://unr.zoom.us/j/86571982903?pwd=ZV1gcn6SViRRQqbDZsvaVz3TW7bHUb.1>

## 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- Chair Kitch called the Committee of Academic and Student Affairs meeting to order on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 4:32 pm in the Frankie Sue Del Papa Conference Room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union and on Zoom. Presiding Secretary, Doga Akyurek.

## 2. COMPLIANCE WITH NEVADA OPEN MEETING LAW

- Was the agenda posted three full working days by 9 am, not including the meeting date?
  - <https://nevadaasun.com/meetings/committee-on-aca...udent-affairs-23/>
- Is the meeting taking place on the day of the week, month, day, year, at the time and location listed on the agenda?
  - Yes.
- Is the Zoom link working and available to the public?
  - Yes.

## 3. 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 their deep connections to these places. We extend our appreciation for the opportunity to live and learn on their territory.”

## 4. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Kitch, Vice Chair Hoang, Senator DeBarger, Senator Issa, Senator Calderon, Senator Benuto, Senator Atkinson.

Absence Excused: Senator Lawson

Absence Unexcused: Senator Bhardwaj

A quorum is present.

## **5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Speaker Leaf Acklin noted that all unexcused absences must be communicated to him via email.

## **6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- 1-26-2026
- 2-9-2026
- Chair Kitch seeks motion to approve the minutes from 1-26-2026 and 2-9-2026.
- So moved by Senator Issa.
- Seconded by Senator Benuto.
- No descend found and the motion is passed.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS**

### **a. S.B. 93- A Bill to Update the ASUN Faculty of the Year Award**

- Chair Kitch explained that the Bill meant to update the Student Faculty of the Year Award. She said the bill is considered old business because it was briefly discussed at the previous meeting when Dr. Little was in present. Chair Kitch noted that the Bill reorganizes and updates the wording about the award because the existing documents had different expectations and inconsistent language in several places. The proposed amendments are highlighted, and two small errors were identified that would be fixed. If approved, the update would help ASUN properly manage and support the award in the future. Chair Kitch concluded her explanation by noting that a binding resolution could follow, which she could draft and fast-track for the next meeting so everything would be finalized.
- Chair Kitch moved the item to the discussion period.
- Senator Issa noted that the Bill is well written and aligns with the discussion the group previously had with Dr. Little. He added that the errors could be easily fixed and he supports the Bill and is in favor of it.
- Chair Kitch moved to favorably recommend S.B 93 Bill to Update the ASUN Faculty of the Year Award to the main Senate.
- So moved by Senator Issa.
- Seconded by Senator DeBarger.
- The motion passed.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

### **a. S.R. 93- A Resolution in Support of the Establishment of a College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Nevada, Reno**

- Senator McAndrews explained that she wrote the piece to show official support for creating a veterinary college in Nevada. She said the initiative was proposed to the Board of Regents by university leadership and is meant to address the shortage of veterinarians in the state. She added that many professionals tend to stay where they study and train, so establishing a veterinary college in Nevada would help keep veterinarians in the state and support agriculture, education and the economy.
- Senator McAndrews also stated that the proposal would not increase student fees or tuition for the general student body. Much of the funding is expected to come from donors and program-specific fees from students enrolled in the veterinary program. UNR already has existing land and facilities that could support the program including agricultural sites and newly opened classroom near the Truckee River, which makes the initiative more feasible.
- Vice Chair Hoang asked to clarify that if the proposal is a new college but not just a new major.
- Senator McAndrews explained that UNR has an undergraduate program which is a pre-vet but there is no professional program and the purpose of this piece to offer in doctorate level - professional program to the students.
- Chair Kitch asked if the asterisk included in the title will be remained or will be removed.
- Senator McAndrews answered that there will be editing and the asterisk aren't intentionally placed and will be removed.
- Senator Issa asked if this proposal is to establish a program for the graduate school or will be an undergraduate program.
- Senator McAndrews said that it will be a college that consisted as a graduate program since UNR has and pre-vet undergraduate program.
- Senator Issa recommended pursuing collaboration with GSA in support of this establishment.
- Senator McAndrews welcomed his suggestion and expressed her support for it.
- Chair Kitch seeks motion to favorably recommend S.R. 93- A Resolution in Support of the Establishment of a College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Nevada, Reno to the main senate table.
- So moved by Senator Issa.
- Seconded by Senator DeBarger.
- No descend found and the motion passed.

## **9. SENATOR REPORTS**

### **a. Chair Kitch- Office of the Provost**

- Chair Kitch reported that she will be meeting with Provost Thompson on Wednesday at 3:00 pm. And aiming to discuss a potential ASUN Senate Pack AI explanation presentation as well as the Path to Independence Program.

### **b. Vice Chair Hoang- Student Services, Student Life Services**

- Vice Chair Hoang reported that he hasn't met with Dr. Speed due to conflicts in their schedule. He also noted that they are currently hiring for an Associate Vice President for Student Life Services, taking over the role that Dean Kennedy has been holding.

### **c. Senator Atkinson- Academic Advising**

- No report at this time.

### **d. Senator Benuto- Residence Hall Association**

- No report at this time.

- e. Senator Bhardwaj- Nevada State Undergraduate Research Journal
  - No report at this time.
- f. Senator Calderon- Admissions and Records
  - No report at this time.
- g. Senator Dayton- Nevada Career Studio
  - No reports at this time.
- h. Senator DeBarger- University Libraries
  - Senator DeBarger reported that she will be meeting with Dean of Libraries, Dean Cardwell briefly tomorrow to discuss NSHE's move to expand the OER (Open Educational Resources Program).
- i. Senator Issa- Faculty Senate, Office of Digital Learning
  - Senator Issa reported that the Faculty Senate has met on March 13<sup>th</sup> and various presentations have taken a place.
- j. Senator Lawson- Greek Life
  - No report at this time.

## **10. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- No public comment at this time.

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

- Chair Kitch adjourned the meeting at 4:53 pm. on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> in the Frankie Sue Del Papa Conference Room.

## **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.

**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, online at [www.nevadaasun.com](http://www.nevadaasun.com)., and online at [notice.nv.gov](http://notice.nv.gov). 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 contact Chair Kitch at [senatorkitch@asun.unr.edu](mailto:senatorkitch@asun.unr.edu) in advance so that arrangements may be conveniently made. If you would like a copy of any of the agenda items listed, please contact Chair Kitch at [senatorkitch@asun.unr.edu](mailto:senatorkitch@asun.unr.edu).

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

93<sup>rd</sup> SESSION  
2025-2026

**S. B. 93-**  
**A BILL TO UPDATE THE ASUN**  
**FACULTY OF THE YEAR AWARD**

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IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

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MARCH 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2026

SUBMITTED TO THE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS BY SENATOR KITCH,  
AUTHORED BY SENATOR KITCH

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**A Bill to Update the ASUN Faculty of the Year Award**

- 1     *Whereas*, the Committee on Academic and Student Affairs is responsible for handling the  
ASUN
- 2     Faculty of the Year Award per Title XXIV, Chapter 2401;
- 3     *Whereas*, the Committee works on this initiative with the Office of Community Engagement  
and
- 4     Service Learning;
- 5     *Whereas*, Chapter 1502 of the Statutes of the Associated Students outlines a variety of tasks  
for
- 6     this committee regarding this award, including creating a form for submissions, monitoring  
it, and

7 voting on a faculty member;

8 *Whereas*, this has not been in practice for several years and should be updated to reflect the

9 standards and expectations of the Committee on Academic and Student Affairs;

10        *Whereas*, the Office of Community Engagement and Service Learning has recently  
11 undergone a name change to the Office of Community-Engaged Learning and Leadership to  
12 reflect the work and  
13 needs of the office;

14        *Whereas*, OC-ELL Director Matthew Little began the position in August 2023, and the  
15 award  
16 had not been handled since before Covid-19;

17        *Whereas*, Director Little and the Committee on Academics and Student Affairs feel that  
18 while a service-learning course designation is a great thing, it severely limits the number of  
19 students who can  
20 submit nominations for their outstanding professors;

21        *Whereas*, striking the ‘service-learning’ designation from the award would allow for more  
22 nominations from undergraduate students, thus highlighting excellent professors in a variety of  
23 colleges;

24        *Whereas*, moving certain responsibilities of the award to OC-ELL lifts pressure off of the  
25 Committee on Academic and Student Affairs while allowing senators in the committee to still  
26 remain  
27 involved;

28        *Whereas*, the award will continue to function with the \$500 from the line item ‘Faculty  
29 Awards’  
30 in the ASUN budget;

31        *Whereas*, this change will help the office continue to do the work it has been doing and  
32 allow

33 ASUN to foster strong connections with faculty;

34        *Be it enacted that*, Addendum A is adopted, reflecting changes made in Title XXIV, Chapter  
35 2401,

36 Sections 1-10;

37 *Be it further resolved*, that a copy of the legislation be sent to the following:

- 38 • Vice President of Student Services, Heather Speed
- 39 • Director of the Office of Community-Engaged Leadership and Learning, Matthew
- 40 Little
- 41 • Senior Associate Director, Amy Koeckes
- 42 • Associate Director of Student Government, Luis Aguilar-Herrera
- 43 • President of ASUN, Carmina Aglubat
- 44 • Vice President of the Association, Ethan McNamara
- 45 • Speaker of the Senate, Leaf Acklin
- 46 • Director of Government Affairs, Isabelle Hatch

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TITLE XXIV: ASUN FACULTY OF THE YEAR AWARD COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT AWARD

CHAPTER 2401: ASUN FACULTY OF THE YEAR AWARD COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT AWARD

SECTION 01: ESTABLISHMENT

There is established the ASUN Faculty of the Year Award ASUN Community  
Engagement Award.

SECTION 02: PURPOSE

The purpose of the ASUN Faculty of the Year Award ASUN Community Engagement  
Award is to recognize exceptional University of Nevada Faculty.

SECTION 03: REGULATIONS

Unless otherwise provided by law, regulation, or other rule of the Associated Students,  
the ASUN Senate Committee on Academics and Student Affairs may formulate and  
publish additional regulations as may be necessary to administer the ASUN Faculty of  
the Year Award ASUN Community Engagement Award

SECTION 04: AWARD

The chosen winners shall receive a plaque of recognition and legislation naming them the  
Faculty of the Year ASUN Community Engagement Award winner, presented to the  
recipients during the annual Honor the Best Ceremony in May. If possible, the award  
should be presented by a member of the ASUN Standing Senate Committee on Academic  
and Student Affairs. ASUN Banquet.

SECTION 05: RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

The ASUN reserves the right to modify the program at any time.

## SECTION 06: PURVIEW

The Office of Community-Engaged Learning and Leadership Senate Committee on Academics and Student Affairs holds purview over the selection of award recipients from applications received.

- a) The Committee Chair shall be responsible for assisting OC-ELL in the disbursement of the award, encouraging undergraduate students to nominate faculty who fit the description, placing successful applications on the next possible Committee on Academics and Student Affairs Agenda.

## SECTION 07: APPLICATIONS

Students and faculty shall submit nominations of a University of Nevada, Reno faculty member for the award to the Office of Community-Engaged Learning and Leadership Committee on Academics and Student Affairs. The Office is responsible for creating appropriate channels for students to submit applications.

## SECTION 08: BASIS OF THE AWARD

The selection of the recipients shall be based on their impact on the learning environment of students, the University, or their community.

## SECTION 09: PROMOTION

The ASUN shall make a concerted effort to inform all possible applicants through a variety of mediums.

## SECTION 10: PUBLICATION OF RECIPIENTS

The Office of Community-Engaged Learning and Leadership ASUN Committee on Academics and Student Affairs shall publish the names of award recipients in a manner

suitable for their recognition. The names of the recipients shall not be published without their proper consent.

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

93rd SESSION  
2025-2026

**S.R. 93 -**  
**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE**  
**ESTABLISHMENT OF A COLLEGE OF**  
**VETERINARY MEDICINE AT THE**  
**UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO**

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IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

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MARCH 9TH, 2026

SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS BY SENATOR McANDREWS

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*Whereas*, the University of Nevada, Reno's vision is \*"to educate and graduate the best-prepared, confident leaders for the state, national, and global community; to be a nexus for research and creativity that focuses on the vital issues of our time; and to serve as a catalyst for the betterment of our society";

*Whereas*, the establishment of a College of Veterinary Medicine directly aligns with this vision by expanding educational opportunities and advancing research that supports Nevada's agricultural, environmental, and public health needs;

*Whereas*, a College of Veterinary Medicine would provide new hands-on learning opportunities for students across the University of Nevada, Reno, including those studying agriculture, animal science, wildlife, rangeland ecology, biology, and related fields; *Whereas*, the University of Nevada, Reno already has infrastructure that could support the development of a veterinary program, including facilities such as the Main Station Field Laboratory and the Main Station Science Center;

*Whereas*, the development of a veterinary program would better prepare students for careers following graduation by increasing access to applied learning, research opportunities, and professional pathways;

*Whereas*, establishing the first College of Veterinary Medicine in the state of Nevada would strengthen the University of Nevada, Reno's competitiveness at the state, national, and global levels;

*Whereas*, support from the Associated Students of the University of Nevada would demonstrate student support for expanding academic opportunities and strengthening the university's role in serving Nevada's communities;

*Be it resolved* that the Associated Students of the University of Nevada support the proposal to establish a College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Nevada, Reno;

*Be it further resolved* that a copy of this resolution be sent to the following individuals:

- President of the Associated Students, Carmina Aglubat;
- Director of Government Affairs, Isabelle Hatch;
- Associate Director of Student Government, Luis Aguilar-Herrera;
- President of the University of Nevada, Reno, Brian Sandoval;
- Executive Vice President and Provost, Jeff Thompson;
- Chair of the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents, Byron Brooks.
- Chair of the Academic, Research, and Student Affairs Committee of the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents, Joseph C. Arrascada.