

# Special Committee on Food Insecurity

Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada 94<sup>th</sup> Session

Agenda for Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 3:04 P.M.

Frankie Sue Del Papa President's Conference Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union

Email Senator Saporito at [SenatorSaporito@asun.unr.edu](mailto:SenatorSaporito@asun.unr.edu) for more information

## a. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

## b. COMPLIANCE WITH NEVADA OPEN MEETING LAW

- a. Was the agenda posted three full working days by 9 am, not including the meeting date? Yes
  - i. [https://nevadaasun.com/?post\\_type=meeting&p=60547&preview=true](https://nevadaasun.com/?post_type=meeting&p=60547&preview=true)
- 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

## c. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- a. "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."

## d. ROLL CALL

- a. Chair Saporito- Present
- b. Speaker Pro Tempore Evans- Present
- c. Senator Radtke- Absent Excused
- d. Senator Castro- Present
- e. Senator Price- Tardy excused
- f. Vice Chair Scherschel- Present
- g. Senator Wilber- Present
- h. Senator Espinoza- Present
- i. Senator Bardwaj- Absent unexcused

## e. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. There is no public comment at this time.

## f. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- a. 3/4/26
  - i. Chair Saporito seeks a motion to approve agenda item 6a though unanimous consent.
  - ii. So moved by Senator Wilber.
  - iii. Second by Senator Espinoza.

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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). Requests for supporting material for an agenda item should be directed to the Archives of the Associated Students.

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**g. REPORTS (INFORMATION ONLY)**

- a. Chair Saporito- Reports “we have a coordinator, PAC Provisions, Tony Ortega, here. She's really excited to meet all you guys, so if you want to give an introduction”, Ms. Ortega introduces herself “Hi everyone, thanks for having me. So as you all know, I'm the coordinator for PAC Provisions, the student food pantry, and I'm here to just hear what you all are kind of working on, coming up with this academic year, and also to help, Be a resource, because food security and or insecurity, depending on how you want to talk about it, has definitely been something I've been working on and towards addressing for, over a decade. I have an agricultural background. I also still work for a non-profit here in Reno called Reno Food Systems, where I am a community garden coordinator, so, I am addressing food insecurity out in the community through means of empowering and teaching people to grow food, but I also now am here at the university. I am an alumni, basically providing services to the Wolf Pack, through running the pantry with very small staff. And so, I would love to talk with all of you to help, you know, brainstorm and, you know, create effective ways to support, not only PAC Provisions with all of your help, but, in ways that, you know, we can all be effective toward addressing food insecurity on campus, through outreach, fundraising, food drives, etc.”
  - i. Chair Saporito asks “What is one of the major ways our committee could help you unpack revisions throughout the school year?”
  - ii. Ms. Ortega Responds “Yeah, I know that time is difficult when you're a full-time student and, you're part of ASUN and all the other things that, you know, everyone has in life, but I think that, first off, being part of a special committee that is focused on food insecurity, I really think that everyone should try to make even one hour, on a food delivery day, a food bank delivery day, to volunteer at the pantry to see What it takes and what it looks like. To really understand the full scope of What it means to address food insecurity, what it means to have a pantry, why the pantry only exists open for 3 days a week and not 5 days a week, what that looks like financially to keep a pantry running, the organization, and all the behind the scenes, and I think a clear picture is to actually come in on a food bank day and, and so, to speak, get your hands dirty. Like today. We were short-staffed, and I thought I could help for 2 hours. I was arm elbows deep in food for six almost 7 no, sorry, six straight hours. And I didn't take a lunch, and that's what it takes to run a pantry, and I think to understand and see the scope and see also the number of students that come through is, really gives everyone a real true sense of what food insecurity looks like, because it's not glamorous. It does feel good to be part of such a project, but it takes a village. And so, volunteerism, and I think outreach. I'm a faculty admin for university. I'm really good at telling stories. I know a lot about food, the growing side, the distribution side, but I think that there's a lot more impact with all of you being students, the student voice, sharing that story, not only on campus, but off campus. Because what I really think the issue is, is not accessibility for where we're located. It's not a dream spot, but it is the student union. I think we really need help in delivering the message that UNR has this amazing resource that is a food pantry that's open to anyone with an active Wolf card, faculty, students, staff. And you get to the grocery shop for free. And there's a lot of the student population that doesn't know that we exist. And part of that is because we're me and currently one part-time student, usually two, and a bunch of volunteers. I shouldn't say a bunch of sometimes volunteers, and that really doesn't leave a lot of, capacity for us to be at tabling events, getting the word out, doing presentations. And so that's kind of that key piece of experiencing PAC provisions as a volunteer and seeing what it actually takes, so that you can kind of go forth and be speaking truthfully to, what does it means to support pack provisions as a volunteer, or as an actual client of the pantry.
  - iii. Vice Chair Scherschel asks, “I was wondering if it would be possible, when we all get back

from summer break, to set up a day for, like, all of us, and, like, to invite the other senators to come in and help with those deliveries and, like, kind of set up a day specifically for us to come in and volunteer.”

- iv. Ms. Ortega answers, “Yeah, so our whole schedule is based around the heart and soul of the Food Bank of Northern Nevada, and they have graciously, which is very rare, because I just met with the UNLV, coordinator for their pantry, and I have to tell you that they have 1,500 square feet to work with. We have 700. And we're doing just as much service as they are. And we're doing it quite well. They gave me a virtual tour. That being said is we get two deliveries. In the summer, we're only getting one, but during the academic year, we get two deliveries from the food bank. UNLV's food pantry gets one delivery a month. They get 5,000 pounds in one shot of dry goods, but we get fresh produce, like, once or twice a week, and so basically the answer to your question is yes, but it would have to be on a day that the food bank's order shows up. So that typically is Monday mornings or Friday mornings. So, it really just depends on people's schedules. We do have a sign-up through our GivePulse, though, and so if it doesn't work that everyone in this committee could attend together, there is the ability to always sign up for shifts through GivePulse.

- b. Senator Castro- No report at this time.
- c. Senator Espionza- No report at this time.
- d. Senator Evans- No report at this time.
- e. Senator Giammona Wilber- No report at this time.
- f. Senator Radke- No report at this time.
- g. Vice Chair Scherschel- No report at this time.
- h. Senator Price- No report at this time.

#### **h. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. There is no old business to be discussed at this time.

#### **i. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Appointment of Vice Chair
  - i. Senator Price nominates himself for the position of Vice Chair
  - ii. Speaker Pro Tempore Evans nominates Senator Scherschel for the position of Vice Chair
    - I) Senator Scherschel accepts
  - iii. Senator Price presents his qualifications and experience for the role of Vice Chair.
    - I) Chair Saporito asks, “Senator Price, how do you handle conflict resolution?”
    - II) Senator Price answers, “Yeah, I mean; I think conflict resolutions are important. I think one of the biggest things that maybe even I've just kind of noticed, within, like, the past year and just working within the association. is that just because we have a conflict over ideas or anything like that doesn't mean that we need to be taking it personally, right? If I disagree with you on a location where a farmer's market needs to be, that doesn't mean that I don't like you as a person. It means that we just need to come back to the table, discuss, and weigh the pros and cons of the situation. And have a meaningful discussion. It doesn't always have to be a debate, there always doesn't have to be a right or a wrong answer. I think we can come to the table and compromise more often than we might think.”
  - iv. Vice Chair Scherschel presents her qualifications and experience for the role of Vice Chair.
    - I) Chair Saporito asks, “Okay, I'll also ask you the conflict resolution question, if that's okay?”
    - II) Senator Scherschel answers, “So how I handle conflict resolution is I always think about the end goal, because I think when you go into it just trying to win, no one

wins. But if you're going into it thinking, I need to have clarity in this, or we need to pick a place to have something, or just whatever resolution needs to happen when you're working towards an active goal and understanding that the conflict is coming from a sense of miscommunication, then you could be much more productive, and that's how I tend to handle conflict resolution.”

- v. Senator Wilber comments, “I think we have two very qualified candidates for Vice Chair. I am leaning towards Scherschel at this time, just because I felt like her presentation kind of outlined the future of sci-fi more, and I thought that that was very well done, and I agree with a lot of those ideas about trying to expand, about helping the Sierra Hall expansion. So, I am leaning towards Churchill, but I know regardless of what way we vote, the vice chair seat will be in good hands.”
- vi. Speaker Pro Tempore Evens comments, “I think both, would be great vice chairs. I was pretty torn, like, as I was trying to, like, consider the two candidates, but I think, for the same reasons that Wilber said, I will be, probably voting for Scherschel here, unless someone else has some, other thoughts about it, so.
- vii. Vice Chair Scherschel is confirmed as the Vice Chair of the Special Committee on Food Insecurity.

## **J. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

- a. Liaison changes and additions
  - i. Pack Provisions — Chair Saporito, Vice Chair Scherschel
    - i. Vice Chair Scherschel motions to place herself as liaison to Pack Provisions through unanimous consent.
    - ii. Second by Senator Price.
    - iii. Chair Saporito motions to place himself as liaison to Pack Provisions through unanimous consent.
    - iv. Second by Senator Wilber.
  - ii. Nevada Dining — Chair Saporito
    - i. Chair Saporito motions to place himself as liaison to Nevada Dining through unanimous consent.
    - ii. Second by Senator Wilber.
  - iii. Desert Farming Initiatives — Speaker Pro Tempore Evans
    - i. Speaker Pro Tempore Evans motions to place himself as liaison to Desert Farming Initiatives through unanimous consent.
    - ii. Second by Vice Chair Scherschel.
  - iv. Assistant Director of Business Operations (Food Ins. Committee/Reslife) — VACANT
  - v. Livestock Coordinator & Supervisor (Main Station, CABNR) — Senator Espinoza
    - i. Senator Espinoza motions to place herself as liaison to Main Station through unanimous consent.
    - ii. Second by Senator Wilber.
  - vi. Wolf Pack Meats — Senator Wilber
    - i. Senator Wilber motions to place himself as liaison to Wolf Pack Meats through unanimous consent.
    - ii. Second by Vice Chair Scherschel.
  - vii. FISH (Friends in Service, Helping) — Senator Castro
    - i. Senator Castro motions to place herself as liaison to FISH through unanimous consent.
    - ii. Second by Senator Espinoza.
  - viii. Pack Rides — Senator Price
    - i. Senator Price motions to place himself as liaison to Pack Rides through unanimous

- consent.
- ii. Second by Senator Wilber.

**k. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- a. Luis Aguilar-Herrera comments, “Dear Senators, Luis Aguilar-Herrera, Associate Director, for the record, great job on your first meeting. I know it's a little cumbersome. I want to congratulate Senator Scherschel, on her appointment to Vice Chair and, Senator Price for a great, campaign. With that, just wanted to say that I know that, first staff, Tony has a lot of great ideas in working with hers and be making the work that you do and this committee much more meaningful, so I'm excited to see where you can take this, role and opportunity. So, keep it up, and great job, everyone. Have a great weekend.”

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

- a. Chair Saporito adjourns the Special Committee on Food Insecurity at 3:51 P.M on Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup> in the Frankie Sue Del Papa President’s Conference Room and on Zoom.