Committee on Academics and Student Affairs

Senate of the Associated Students 94th Session
Agenda for Friday, November 6th, 2026 at 2:30 PM
Frankie Sue Del Papa Presidents Room 3rd Floor of the
JCSU in the ASUN Center for Student Engagement

Zoom Link: https://unr.zoom.us/j/88317085273

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? Committee on Academic and Student Affairs - ASUN
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.

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We recognize that the University of Nevada, Reno, sits 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

The Secretary will list roll call.

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 of time members of the public may speak.

Posted at the ASUN Offices in the Joe Crowley Student Union, 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 Nubel at senatornubel@asun.unr.edu

6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

There are no minuets to be approved of.

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

There are no missing audio minutes at this time.

8. REPORTS

a. Chair Nubel
b. Vice-Chair Giammona Wilber
c. Senator Anderson
d. Senator Cain
e. Senator Potter
f. Senator Williams
g. Senator Wilson
h. Senator Zuniga

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

10. NEW BUSINESS (INFORMATION ONLY/FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

a. **S.R. 94.23 – A Resolution Urging Clarification for Environmentally Caused Absences**
b. **S.B. 94.41 – An Act To Establish A Ballot Question For A $0.20 Nevada Sagebrush Fee**
c. Liaison Changes and Adoptions
    i. Greek Life (Senator Wilson)
    ii. Office of Admissions and Records (Senator Williams)
    iii. Office of Digital Learning (Senator Williams)
    iv. Nevada Career Studio (Senator Anderson)
    v. Vice President of Student Services (Senator Anderson)
    vi. Interim Associate Vice President of Student Life Services (Senator Zuniga)
    vii. University Libraries (Senator Cain)
    viii. Residential Life Association (Senator Zuniga)
    ix. Academic Advising and Tutoring Centers (Senator Cain)
    x. Faculty Senate (Senator Giammona Wilber)
    xi. NSURJ (Senator Potter)
    xii. Office of the Provost (Senator Giammona Wilber)

11. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There is no miscellaneous business at this time.

12. 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.

13. 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.

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

94th SESSION
2026-2027

S.R. 94.23

A Resolution Urging Clarification for Environmentally Caused Absences

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In the Senate of the Associated Students

9/29/2026

Submitted to the Senate of the Associated Students by Senator Giammona Wilber

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Whereas, environmental factors shall include snow and ice (when plows are needed/being used in the area), fire (when structures are being threatened), smoke (when the Air Quality Index exceeds the number 200 in the area, or 125 if a student has documented respiratory issues), extreme heat (when the temperature is reported at over 105 degrees Fahrenheit), flooding (when roads or areas of buildings are submerged by standing water), or road closures (clarified by the City of Reno and/or the Nevada Department of Transportation);

Whereas, conditions vary across the greater Reno-Sparks area, and the current environment at the University of Nevada, Reno campus does not accurately reflect current conditions in other areas;

Whereas, approximately 81% of University of Nevada, Reno students and over 99% of faculty live off campus and commute to campus for school or work[1];

Whereas, students who do not live on campus likely have to commute to campus via car, public transportation, or by other means along local roadways;

Whereas, students commuting via roadways from all around the greater Reno area are subject to the conditions of those roadways;

Whereas, the University of Nevada, Reno has seen backlash when not closing campus on days where environmental factors affected many students, such as during the winter storms in late 2024 and early 2025 and the Hawk Fire at the beginning of the 2026-2027 academic year;

Whereas, the Hawk Fire burned at least 30 structures including homes in the Stead area of Reno, north of the University of Nevada, Reno's campus[2];

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[1] *University of Nevada--Reno Student Life - US News Best Colleges*, www.usnews.com/best-colleges/university-of-nevada-reno-2568/student-life. Accessed 25 Aug. 2026.
[2] Palma, Maria, and Michel Martin. "30 Structures Burned in Reno's Hawk Fire, Officials Say." *NPR*, 25 Aug. 2026, www.npr.org/2026/08/25/nx-s1-5943559/30-structures-burned-in-renos-hawk-fire-officials-say. Accessed 25 Aug. 2026.

Whereas, the average fatality rate is 3.6 times higher on icy roadways than on any other type of roadway[3], and nearly 2,000 people die and 135,000 are injured yearly due to automobile crashes caused by icy road conditions[4]; and

Be it resolved, that the University of Nevada, Reno, and its faculty are urged to not charge students unexcused absences, per individual attendance policies, for classes they are unable to attend due to environmentally related factors.

Be it further resolved, that the syllabus of every in-person class is urged to include a section explaining that environmentally caused absences with at least a two hour notice (from when class starts) are to be counted as excused absences, per individual attendance policies.

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

- Vice President for Student Services - *Heather Speed*
- Executive Director of Environmental Health & Safety - *Cheston Carpenter*
- Chair of the Faculty Senate - *Dr. Cheryl Hug-English*
- Associate Director of Student Government - *Luis Aguilar-Herrera*
- President of ASUN - *Dillon Moss*
- Vice President of ASUN - *Luke Calderon*
- Speaker of the 94th Senate - *Jason Issa*
- Chair of the Committee on Safety, Sustainability, and Wellness - *Mikayla Williams*
- Chair of the Committee on Academic Student Affairs - *Michael Nubel*

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[3] "Icy Road Accident Statistics." *Icy Road Safety.Com - Prepare for Weather's Most Underrated Hazard*, icyroadsafety.com/fatalitystats.shtml. Accessed 27 Aug. 2026.

[4] *Winter Driving Statistics in 2026 | the Zebra*, www.thezebra.com/resources/research/winter-driving-statistics/. Accessed 27 Aug. 2026.

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

94th SESSION
2026-2027

S.B. 94.41 -
AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A BALLOT QUESTION FOR A $0.20 NEVADA SAGEBRUSH FEE

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2026

SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS BY SENATOR HORVATH
CO-AUTHORED BY SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE EVANS

Whereas, The Nevada Sagebrush is one of the oldest newspapers in the nation, being founded October 19th, 1893, and is a staple of this university; and

Whereas, it's imperative to preserve the history of The Nevada Sagebrush and deliver independent journalism for future generations of students; and

Whereas, The Nevada Sagebrush is in continuous production in present day; and

Whereas, The Nevada Sagebrush delivers informative articles regarding students life, sports, and academics, as well as commentary, entertainment, and other national news; and

Whereas, The Nevada Sagebrush is valuable for Journalism majors to help them gain experience in the field of Journalism; and

Whereas, the proposed credit fee will be $0.20 per credit; and

Whereas, all undergraduate students enrolled in at least 1 credit will pay this fee; and

Whereas, students taking a full 15 credit course load will only pay $3.00 a semester; and

Whereas, this fee will fund The Nevada Sagebrush, generating significant revenue to continue day to day operations; and

Whereas, without this additional funding, The Nevada Sagebrush is in danger of going bankrupt; and

Whereas, their main source of income stems from bought ad revenue; and

Whereas, this source of income has taken a hard hit and never fully recovered from the COVID-19 Pandemic; and

Whereas, the Covid-19 pandemic resulted in significant ad losses from customers, causing financial strain on Sagebrush staff and financial instability in the long term; and

Whereas, this fee would help fund paid student journalist positions and deliver them better wages; and

Whereas, without this new funding, all paid student positions would be eliminated; and

Whereas, The Scarlet & Gray, the student run newspaper of The University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) has successfully implemented a similar such fee, with a similar purpose and mission; and

Whereas, the UNLV fee helps fund their staff and other such expenditures appropriate for a newspaper; and

Whereas, the Board of Regents approved this proposal in December 2022 and went into effect in the fall semester of 2023; now, therefore,

THE STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA REPRESENTED IN THE SENATE, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Be it enacted, that a ballot question seeking the approval of the voters shall appear on the 2027 ASUN general election ballot as follows: “Shall a student credit fee of $0.20 per credit be authorized to fund and support The Nevada Sagebrush?”; and

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

- President, University of Nevada, *Brian Sandoval*;
- Vice President, Student Services, *Heather Speed*;
- Director, Center for Student Engagement, *Dion Webb-Figueroa*;
- Associate Director, Student Government, *Luís Aguilar-Herrera*;
- Dean, Reynolds School of Journalism, *Gi W. Yun*;
- President, Associated Students, *Dillon Moss*;
- Vice President, Associated Students, *Luke Calderon*;
- Speaker, 94th Senate, Associated Students, *Jason Issa*;
- Chair, Committee on Academics & Student Affairs, *Michael Nubel*;

- Executive Editor, The Nevada Sagebrush, *James Perez*;
- Deputy Editor, The Nevada Sagebrush, *Riley Overstreet*;
- Coordinator, Student Publications and Marketing, *Gabby Turner*
- Co-Director of Elections, *Katie Waldron*