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Joint Senate Meeting Minutes

Student Government

2-20-2024

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2023-2024 Student Government

Associated Students of the University of Nebraska-Kearney



Minutes & Proceedings

February 20th, 2024

Senators in Attendance: Sanchez, Dittmer, Manning, Nolan, Seibert, Howe, Hall, Torres, Simpson, Burklund, Bond, Przymus, Burklund, Schardt, Oltmans, Vargas, Orellana.

Senators Absent:

Senate Executives: Speaker Schroeder, Secretary Loeffelholz

Government Executives: President Temo Molina, Vice President Ethan Ciancio, Olivia Lawless, Noah Shackelford, Kimberly Gomez, and Tanner Jonas.

The joint meeting of the Associated Students of the University of Nebraska – Kearney was held on February 20, 2024, in the Antelope Room of the Nebraskan Student Union and was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Speaker Schroeder; Quorum was present.

Public Comment:

- Alex Hammeke
 - News director at UNK
 - If any events are going on, let him know so he can promote them through news.

Guest Speaker (Michael Christen from Facilities):

- Giving an update on operations on campus
 - Focusing on Loper Spirit Shop and Dining today.
- Loper Spirit Shop
 - Starting 2nd year of being run by UNK.
 - Switched to online bookstore and have seen success there.
 - Orders are up 10%.
 - Went through 11,000 units in the fall (advantage of being shipped here).
 - 67% that ordered were charged through their student account.
 - Easier for some students to be able to pay.

- eBooks trend is increasing.
 - Working hard on updating clothing items and bringing in new items constantly.
 - Expanded product line and looking for the best pricing.
 - If anyone wants to put their input in, reach out!
 - Student feedback is huge!
- Dining
 - Brought back Mongolian Grill in cafeteria.
 - Goal is to bring consistency to the dining department.
 - Feedback in this department is also very important and wanted!
 - Looking at adding dining in the new UNMC building
 - Made to order food.
 - Will also be a GRID in that building.
 - Will be more of a grab and go service.
 - Students will be able to use meal swipes there.
 - Looking at also updating our current GRID.
 - Looking at extending another five-year contract with Sodexo.
 - Have had a company out of Omaha here every week working on fixing the dishwasher.
 - Looking at options of replacing that (long process).
 - Price increases at the GRID
 - What they pay for those items, is what we are being charged. That price increase is from the suppliers.
- There will always be minor issues that arise, and our staff is there to make sure students are always receiving the best experience.

Cabinet Reports

Chief of Staff (Noah Shackelford):

- Sign up is closed for Capitol Experience Day closed.
 - Thank you to anyone who signed up for that.
- The sign up for I Love NU Day is up!
 - Can find it in the group-me.

Secretary of Treasury (Olivia Lawless):

- Exciting expenses lately
 - \$126 postage for the Big Event
 - \$82.50 on brochures
 - \$117 on new logo design
 - \$84 Campus Adoption yard sign
 - \$4,709 on Bruner's tables/chairs.
 - \$184 for Student Org Fair events

Secretary of Organizations and Affairs (Kimberly Gomez):

- December/January Student Org of the Month winner is Special Olympics College.
- Looking for more February nominations.
- Revisiting sponsorship opportunity for Out of Darkness Campus Walk (\$500)

Secretary of Community Relations (Tanner Jonas):

- Big Event planning is well under way.
 - Keeping reaching out to people to get them to sign up!
 - Got food orders for the event placed today.

Vice President's Report (Ethan Ciancio):

- Advising conference is going well!

- Will have a lot of fun facts for everyone upon return.
- Advising Innovations Presentation this Thursday
 - If able to, should attend that event.
 - More details in the group-me.

President's Report (Temo Molina):

- Attended another Board of Regent's meeting.
 - Related to updates on the President search.
 - Continuous process and making progress.
- Higher education legislation from last week.
 - Prospects for potential future are significant and some of the content has sparked some campus discussion.
 - The bills haven't gained much traction but have the possibly of coming back in the future.
 - If anyone has any specific questions, reach out to Temo!
- Some students and Temo went to the capitol building and learned about civil engagement and general advocacy.
 - Hoping it will be a good experience as we approach, I Love NU Day.
- Faculty Senate's Academic Affairs Committee
 - There is a vacancy.
 - Meetings are every 2nd or 3rd Thursday at 3pm.
- Meeting with candidates for Senior Vice Chancellor of academic affairs.
 - There will be three dates at 4pm open to a total of six people (February 21, 26, and March 8).

Student Court Report (Chief Justice Peterworth):

- Student court is sitting at 20% appeal rate (high).
 - May be connected to appealing freshmen's first tickets.
 - May tweak that a little bit to just appealing those in the fall.
- Other than that, back to normal weekly things issues.
- If you have friends in athletics, parking is lot 12 after 2, and lot 14a before 8:30.

Committee Reports

Selections and Constitutional Review (Senator Hall):

- DREAM
 - Disability, Rights, Education, Activism, Mentoring
 - Main goal is to promote accessibility and educate students on campus about disabilities.
 - Would like to work with any organization on campus to help improve certain areas around campus that in the end could benefit students with disabilities.
 - Are also hoping to become nationally affiliated in the future.
 - As an organization, looking to break down the barrier between students with disability and students without.
 - Approved.
- Phi Delta Theta
 - Fraternity here on campus.
 - Working on getting community service hours up within members.
 - Working on starting spring philanthropy project this semester (dodgeball tournament).
 - Also working on sorority/fraternity relationships on campus.
 - Approved.
- Alpha Omicron Pi

- Sorority here on campus.
- Pillars
 - College loyalty, scholarship, dignity, and character
- Working on housing more educational program workshops, to provide chapter members with more valuable life skills.
- Currently sitting at 68 active members.
- Currently participating in continuous open bidding.
- Approved.
- UNK VAW Global Medicine
 - Part of a larger national VAW organization.
 - Go on a mission trip in the summer to another country to help provide medical assistance to others.
 - Currently have 21 UNK students going this upcoming summer and are currently fundraising for that trip now.
 - Approved.

Rules and Ethics (Senator Przymus):

- No report.

Facilities, Campus Development, and Sustainability (Senator Bond):

- Sustainability meeting was yesterday.
 - Had a good discussion about going about collaborating between res-life and facilities.
 - Will still plan on meeting once a month if anyone is interested in attending.
 - Sustainability week –April 22nd, will start coming up with a plan on what we want to do for that week.
 - Hoping to do Recycle Fest like has been done in the past.
 - Hoping to use this week to recruit students to join this club.
 - There is a possibility of Kearney hosting Sustainability Summit next year!!
 - Will bring attention and publicity to our campus!
 - Ponderosa is being updated over spring break!
 - New carpet and fresh paint!

Student Affairs and Public Relations (Senator Howe and Seibert):

- Thinking of ways to increase nominations for student org of the month.
 - Challenge for all of you is to share graphic on Instagram story so we can get more nominations.
- Special Olympics College was last month's winner!
- Posted weekly minutes.

Student Programming Board (Senator Torres):

- Last week decided going to make a small addition to UPPF form.
- Tomorrow, senators can attend RSO training in student engagement office at 4.
 - If anyone wants to join, go!

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (Senator Simpson):

- Inclusive Excellence meeting coming up!

Unfinished Business

- None.

New Business

- None.

Speaker's Report (Sam Schroeder)

- Finalized a date for the mental health discussion.
 - March 26--still looking at times.

- Please attend and reach out to others to also attend.
- Attended a NU student advocacy group meeting.
 - Paul from UNL is set on beating Kearney's attendance this year.
 - Encourage everyone to go to I Love NU Day.
- Brewed Awakening will have special drink during I Love NU week.
- Have been working on town hall event.
 - Perhaps set it on a date to make it a transition even for new senators.
 - Still looking at a date for that event.

Secretary's Report (Abby Loeffelholz)

- No report.

Advisor's Report (Rena Zimmer)

- Senior Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs
 - Open session tomorrow at 11 in Discovery Hall
 - Open to campus if you would like to attend.
 - Other open sessions are on February 26 at 10:15, and March 8 at 10:30
- Reminder of debate on March 4 at 6:30.
 - Thank you all for patience and navigating applications last week.
- Attending the National Association of Campus Activities Thursday through Monday in Pittsburg Pennsylvania.
 - If you need anything, can still reach out through email!

Senator Simpson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Senator Hall seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 pm.