

1 **Associated Students of New Mexico Highlands University**

2
3 **Regular Meeting Sunday, January 18th, 2009 7:30PM**

4
5 I. Call to Order

6 The first regular meeting for the Spring 2009 semester was called to order at 7:32
7 p.m.

8 II. Pledge of Allegiance:

9 III. Roll Call

10 Roll Call was administered by Secretary Quintana senators that were absent were as
11 follows:

12 Senator Torres and Senator Rojas

13 Secretary Quintana asked that Senator Ndem, Senator Roseby, and Senator Tresor be
14 removed from their seats at this time until their time of appeal.

15 IV. Approval of Agenda

16 Senator Means asked to make an addition under new business. He asked if we could
17 discuss not replacing Anthony's and Rebecca's seat until the investigation process
18 was complete and until the senate be made aware of the situation at hand. It was
19 mentioned that as per constitution they are not allowed to qualify to serve and can't
20 make the appeal process because they are removed by constitution because of
21 disciplinary probation in which they have previously been placed on. Judy asks that
22 we go into executive session for this issue at hand because she feels the senate should
23 be informed as to what is going on. The appeals and this issue being discussed are
24 have to be talked about separately because they are concerning two different
25 circumstances. President Parra Perez mentioned that this was totally right but that we
26 need to concentrate on the issues of students first being that they are our priority and
27 not our personal or senate issues. The motion at hand was to make this an item and
28 VP Butts said this could be added under new business under letter H. Senator Fields
29 had the second. Senator Maestas made a motion to that Ilfield production be added
30 under the next highlands events. Senator Martinez had the second. Senator Rael had
31 the approval the second was made by Senator Maestas.

32 V. Approval of Minutes

33 Senator Maestas made a motion line 83 be deleted so his name isn't added twice.
34 Senator Lopez had the second. President Pro Temp Ulibarri made the motion to
35 approve the minutes Senator Martinez had the second.

36 VI. Presidential Appointments

37 Senator Rael mentioned that the committee met on Friday as well as this evening.
38 The meeting on Friday was chaired by President Pro Temp Ulibarri because Senator
39 Rael could not attend this meeting. The committee interviewed Juan Silva and
40 Courtney Fergasin. There were some concerns and questions by Senator Maestas for
41 President Parra Perez about the appointments and other issues that could later be
42 discussed as addressed in the agenda. Senator Maestas made a motion to table the
43 Presidential Appointment process to be tabled until the next meeting because of some
44 concerns regarding other people who had been interviewed in the past. Senator
45 Maestas feels that the other seven who had been interviewed should be included on
46 the vote. Senator Rael made a comment that it had never been noted that the other

47 seven individuals who had been interviewed weren't recommended as Senator
48 Masestas had mentioned. The seven individuals did meet in front of the committee
49 but only two were recommended to the senate at this time. President Parra Perez
50 stated that she felt these two were the best qualified to fill a position that needed to be
51 filled and that is why she forwarded their names to presidential appointments after
52 reviewing their applications. She also stated that the committee is the one who
53 recognized the ones that were discussed and recommended at their meetings. Senator
54 Siben made a motion to table the presidential appointments until the next meeting.
55 Senator Martinez had the second. There was asked if there was a discussion on the
56 floor. Senator Rael feels that it's not fair to table the motion because these two
57 individuals were forwarded because President Parra Perez felt they would be a great
58 asset to the senate. They were recommended by the way they presented themselves
59 to the committee in their interview. Whether or not it's something that was tabled he
60 feels that these two individuals were here regardless if there was seven people last
61 semester nor were they approved by the senate. It's not right that they took the time
62 out of their day to make it to this meeting and expect to be interviewed and we not
63 give them the chance. He feels that the senate should at least hear them out and what
64 they have to present to the senate. President Parra Perez mentioned that nowhere in
65 our constitution does it say that we go back to our seven people in which were
66 appointed previously. Yes their names do stay in a file and she sorts through all the
67 applications every time that there are seats available and the people she feels are most
68 qualified are the ones who get their names forwarded to this committee. It's the same
69 process that is followed each time and she refuses to change that unless otherwise
70 stated in the constitution. Senator Siben said that he does feel we have to be fair to
71 everyone and we should be fair to the seven who we are talking about. He also
72 mentioned that has a problem that they text him with such short notice about
73 meetings. He said there was a scheduled meeting for five o'clock that day and he got
74 the text message at two o'clock telling him about this meeting. He needs prior notice
75 and feels that everyone should have adequate time to do their job properly. Senator
76 Bernard agrees with everyone and everything that Senator Rael mentioned but also
77 disagrees with a couple of key points. He is not aware of people who are removed
78 from their seat, people who are being recommended, and so forth. Senator Rael
79 mentioned that since it's a presidential appointment and being that it was the first
80 week of being back at school and a seat needs to be filled that there was going to be
81 short notice. Senator Rael did say that he was finding it hard and time consuming to
82 be checking his e-mail to communicate with Senator Siben and that a lot of the time
83 Senator Siben wouldn't reply to his e-mails. VP Butts called order and mentioned
84 that we needed to take care of the business that was on the table and that they could
85 take care of their personal communication problems on their own time. It was stated
86 that the Presidential Appointments Committee were not able to meet quorum so
87 therefore he didn't have a vote at this time. Senator Maestas mentioned that with the
88 motion on the floor and t needed to be taken care he thinks it's good and since the
89 president did take her time and read the letters submitted to her that those other seven
90 who didn't get in at that time should be given the opportunity along with these two
91 individuals to be interviewed.

92 For: 8

93 Against:6
94 Since the senator for this to be tabled overruled the others this meeting was to be
95 tabled until the next meeting.

96 The chair recognized Senator Burns to his seat at 7:54 p.m.

97 VII. Executive Reports

98 A. President Parra-Perez

99 President Parra-Perez welcomed everyone back. Thanked everyone for did attend the Vida
100 Encantada and we received a lot of praise for it. It was a great way to give back to the
101 community and was greatly appreciated and looks good for the senate to do something
102 good of that matter. He encouraged anyone who had any ideas or suggestions to reach out
103 to the community to let her know so maybe we can get something together soon and have
104 another successful event. She then stood for questions.

105 B. Vice President Butts

106 VP Butts apologized for being in shorts she just flew in from San Diego and also those
107 who have her cell phone number do not call her because it is currently out of commission
108 and everyone needs to e-mail to be able to correspond with her for the next 48 hours or
109 until further notice. On the 28th she will be getting surgery done so do not call her. She is
110 currently on medication and apologized for anything she might she say one don't like.
111 We need to start this semester off with a bang. As student officials and leaders we need to
112 get out there and show face and get things done and get involved because this is our
113 campus. There are athletic updates: individual girls did qualify in track for nationals, the
114 wrestlers are doing good this year, the guys basketball team are doing really good, and the
115 girls are doing.

116 C. Secretary Quintana

117 Secretary Quintana did thank everyone for being at the meeting and welcomed everyone
118 back. She wished everyone a great semester and encouraged everyone to get involved as
119 much as possible this semester. Also she apologized for all the miscommunications,
120 inconveniences, and discrepancies with the stipends and attendance. As far as the senate
121 stipends go there was some confusion but those immediately got taken care of. She also
122 mentioned to the senate that she was going to be ordering business cards for new senators
123 or individuals who needed more being that it was getting closer to lobbying at the
124 legislature and for other events that are going to be going no. Along with attendance and
125 as to Senator Bernard's previous comment about not knowing what's going on with the
126 attendance she had some concerns. She did mention that as senators they are expected to
127 be at meetings as it is stated in the constitution and by laws everyone is required to attend
128 meetings if not they are counted against them. Committee meetings do count against
129 individuals so please everyone should be aware of all this by this time of the year. If
130 anyone is to be absent from a committee meeting or regular meeting they need to contact
131 her and let he know. This nonsense of hear-say that one is going to be absent needs to
132 stop. No on can be excused without documented excuses such as doctors notes for
133 illnesses or obituary's for deaths. Having to go out of town or just saying you are sick
134 without proof and documentation does not count. As far as committee reports go if
135 senators say they have to be excused some form of documentation of proof along with the
136 report have to be turned in to her. The only excuse that does not need documentation is
137 having class because class schedules are proof of that other than that nothing else counts.
138 Also a problem that is going on in the meetings is that people are showing up late. As

139 senators in meetings everyone has the chance to set the time and dates of meetings. If you
140 can't make it at a certain time or always going to be late you need to speak up and change
141 the time of the meetings. Everyone is voting to have meetings at a certain time and it
142 makes it hard for her to keep up with attendance during the meetings because she is
143 constantly trying to keep up with the minutes that need to be taken. Although these
144 attendance and recognitions to being seated in the meetings in recorded in the minutes she
145 mentioned she might have forgotten a couple of times to go back through the minutes to
146 fix the attendance and apologizes for that. Senator Bernard had a comment and stated that
147 he wants to know if everyone could get notice of their absences earlier in the semester
148 instead of later in the semester so they know where they stand and what not. He also
149 mentioned that it should be her responsibility to make sure that the attendance is taken
150 properly for each meeting. VP Butts did mention that she's served in that position and it
151 does get hard to keep up with everyone who comes in late or doesn't show up or what not
152 when trying to take minutes and we are all human and make mistakes. She also mentioned
153 that Secretary Quintana was just doing her job and that was all. Secretary Quintana did
154 apologize for the errors and hopes to make this semester a better semester. Also anyone
155 who is needed new business cards or who have changed any of their contact information
156 need to e-mail her the detail and make sure everything is correct because she goes off
157 merely everything everyone submits to her so if there are any mistakes or errors it is their
158 own faults. She can't be ordering new business cards every time there are minor errors.
159 So please make sure to check the information and confirm everything is good before
160 submitting everything. She then stood for any further questions.

161 D. Pro-Tempore Ulibarri

162 Welcome everyone back and encourages everyone to participate and get more involved
163 and be better individuals. And be excellent role models on our campus. VP Butts and she
164 met and decided that it's a new semester and that people in committee's will be changed
165 and moved around. Senator Bernard asked if it says anything in the constitution about
166 moving people around. VP Butts mentioned that she has the right to move senators
167 around or make any changes she best sees fit as per the constitution. Senator Lopez asked
168 why it's being changed. President Para Perez mentioned that we have to change due to
169 issues with disciplinary actions and because of issues taken on last semester that things
170 need to be changed. VP Butts also mentioned that it wasn't personal and really isn't that
171 big of a deal. Not everyone will be changed but some people will be moved to different
172 committee's.

173 E. Vice President Cordova-Romero

174 One of the things she consistently hears is that it's hard to get a hold of each other and that
175 people didn't know what meetings are not going on. Some senators don't use their
176 student e-mails and that's the only way that we can communicate with everyone. If you
177 chose to not use your e-mail then you will not know what's going on. There are a lot of
178 activities going on around the campus. We are in the process of acquiring the College of
179 Santa it's a private four year institution in Santa Fe. It's in financial woes that is going to
180 make it impossible for them to continue what they have been doing with their program.
181 Our board of regents and their board of regents they are going into an MOU or letter of
182 intent which lets us negotiate with the College of Santa Fe for the next 120 days and not
183 with any other college. They have a lot of financial issues that need to be clarified and
184 need to find out what's going on. We are in a good position for bonding power. It won't

185 affect the students here but will affect the students in the College of Santa Fe. Their tuition
186 is ten times more what we are paying for here. This will be a great benefit for those
187 students as to what they are paying now. Half of them are in Albuquerque and the others
188 are in Santa Fe. They have a strong and media arts program that has gotten national
189 recognition. There are about 900 New Mexican's who are currently taking courses in
190 Alb. and Santa Fe and have a lot of support from the city of Santa Fe. There are a lot of
191 things up in the air as far as things that are going to be offered and what course
192 completion programs that will be offered. There are lots of things that we can only
193 imagine that we can figure out but lots of people are working hard and that's where the
194 Presidents time will be taken at this time. Legislation lobbying will begin on Tuesday for
195 60 days. There are not new monies yet. What are the highlands priorities, separate
196 priorities and etc will be talked about at this time. We have been told legislatively that we
197 may have to do a 2-4% cut on our budget that we might have to look at. The spring
198 enrollment is very strong 7-9% if we can maintain that until census state. We can move
199 our funding formula and will move us to the next band which will increase our funding
200 formula and won't happen for two years. We need do anything we currently can to
201 maintain our current program and the last day to register is Tuesday. The new residence
202 hall is coming along very quickly and got to see a suit that was 90% complete. The rooms
203 are smaller than she envisioned on a floor plan but it's different. It's exciting and
204 beautiful facility and wants to get people to walk through it. The architect for the student
205 center is going to be moving forward the negotiation has come to an end and everyone has
206 agreed to each other's terms. We will see Mortimer hall come down this semester if this
207 process goes well. The social work program will move to the old science building. The
208 president is moving forward with his strategic progress strategy and VP butts will serve on
209 this.

210 F. Dr. Linder

211 VIII. Old Business

212 A. Student Regent:

213 We had five applicants for this position. The top three names were forwarded to the
214 president we are waiting for the governor's word on this.

215 IX. New Business

216 A. Bryan Cokeley Memorial - Action Item

217 He was a media arts student who passed away this last semester. The memorial has been
218 scheduled for next Saturday January 31 at 5:00 it's important for the senate to be there.
219 VP Cordova Romero would like to request that the senate provide the flower
220 arrangements and drinks for this memorial. His parents are from California so that's why
221 we are waiting until this day. It will be in Kennedy. Senator Rael made a motion to
222 contribute to the memorial services purchasing the flowers and refreshments and anything
223 else the family might need. Senator Siben had the second.
224 Senator Maestas, Senator Rael, and Senator Lopez (might not be there) did mention that
225 they might not be able to be there. Senator means asked who was responsible for this
226 memorial. VP Cordova Romero stated that it was his significant other that asked VP
227 Cordova Romero to help with this memorial.

228 B. H.U.Day at the Legislature

229 February 10, 2008 is highlands day at the legislature and we all go in our bus and we show
230 highlands pride here. Everyone is required to be there on this day. The band and mariachi

231 recruitment and ambassadors do go. Everyone will be excused from class if it's a school
232 day. We do need two senators if no one else is found to be a mascot. If anyone has any
233 ideas of things they want to do but we do have to show up. President Pro Temp Ulibarri
234 asked if we were going to get jackets. President Para Perez said she would further discuss
235 this and look into the matter. Senator Martinez asked if the most important bills can be
236 submitted to him because his auntie works there and he has an appointment to meet with
237 someone there. VP Cordova Romero mentioned that we had not yet received those either
238 and that they would automatically be forwarded to the people intended when received.

239 C. May Concert

240 Everyone voted on giving some money to this event. It's March 27th here in Las Vegas,
241 they are going to be advertising and marketing. Pitbull, Melissa Lujan, and Chingy might
242 be coming Juan and Nick are putting it together. They would like for everyone to help
243 out. If everyone could spread the word, it's \$15 for Luna and Highlands students. That's
244 only until the day of the concert the price will raise on the day of the concert. It's first
245 come first serve. The concert will be held at the Wilson Complex. VP Butts suggested
246 that the media arts club for advertising and marketing and get them involved. Juan asked
247 if maybe the senate could buy some tickets to give out to a few students just promoting the
248 concert. VP Butts asked if we could wait a little later into the semester to get something
249 like this going. President Parra Perez did mention that we did put some money up and we
250 will be getting every single cent back. Maybe we could do something that gives back to
251 the community to give out free tickets like a food drive or sponsorship to use it to our
252 benefit. Senator Maestas mentioned that we are going to be making all the money back if
253 we could promote this more and give an idea of letting all students in and cover something
254 up for the students since it is their fee's and it's promoting highlands and more student
255 participation. This is an alcohol free event. There are going to be 25 armed police forces.
256 There is going to be additional certified security.

257 D. Club H.U.

258 We will be having club hu this week. At least once a month a big event will be going on.
259 Something like the Viva Las Vegas event. It had a good turn out and would be nice to see
260 something like this again. An e-mail will be sent out on behalf of this. Senator Martinez
261 asked if we could move club hu to Friday nights because some students have class and
262 they have approached him with this. Days are subject to change depending on different
263 things that are going on around the campus and what not. The reason why it's been like
264 this is because of traditional issues and students fees are being put into this.
265 Tresor who was sitting in the gala said that we should take students reasons into concerns
266 and that we should put the education first. VP Butts stated that traditionally college night
267 has been done on a Thursday for years passed and it's been proven that more students are
268 more likely to show up on a Thursday because it's during the week and there is nothing to
269 do vs. a Friday when a lot of students use that day to travel back home and different things
270 like that.

271 E. Next Highlands Event

272 Last semester we did a lot of little things that had pretty good turn outs. But we haven't
273 really done something bit that serves the students. President Para Perez is putting it into
274 our hands and coming up with something creative and something that we could take
275 ownership of. If we can do that it can help us come together and we can see different
276 reviews of our students. But we needs to get a committee together and we need to do

277 something. The sooner we do this the better. VP Cordova Romero mentioned that she is
278 asking Activities Board to do something along with the Obama event that's coming up
279 and if we could get with Margaret and have something during the day so that students can
280 come and watch it.

281 F. Ilfield Events

282 On the 28th they are having the Peeking Acrobats the tickets are \$12 for highlands
283 students and she is guessing that the reason it was brought up was to purchase tickets for
284 students or just have students go. Senator Mateast thinks that senate should be involved
285 with doing something to promote the senate.

286 G. H.A.C.U.

287 There were five people chosen from the senate: Langster and Rodrigo were supposed to
288 go to Denver but that trip didn't manifest so therefore their names were automatically put
289 on the list. President Parra Perez, Crystal Rae and Genevieve will also be going. The
290 housing office agreed to sponsor Desiree to go. Judy Cordova is going to send Stephanie
291 out of her office at the end of February beginning of March. Judy needs to talk to them
292 after the meeting. She will be purchasing the airline tickets. President Parra Perez
293 mentioned that she wrote a letter to someone which entails us to present a reef that will be
294 hung in a very public place and will show that it came from NMHU. This is a very
295 prestigious thing and will get great recognition to have the reef up with our name. If one
296 of the senators decided that can't go on this Washington trip for whatever reason the
297 alternate person to go will be Kasey.

298 H. Questions Regarding Presidential Appointments - President Parra-Perez

299 Senator Bernard asked what the process of appointing people to ASNMHU was and if she
300 could elaborate on that a little more. No one is losing their seat was mentioned by
301 President Parra Perez. Senator Torres' seat was just going to be filled because he did
302 graduate and at the beginning of the year he did state that he would no longer serve on the
303 senate after December. Whoever she feels is qualified for this positions their names are
304 then forwarded to presidential appointment chair and that's how they go about filling
305 their seats as recommended by the presidential appointments committee. Senator Lopez
306 asked if anyone that is appointed if they could be informed as to how many seats are open.
307 As seats come about all senators should know how many students. She mentioned that if
308 anyone needs information that they can e-mail President Parra Perez or Secretary
309 Quintana to obtain this information. Senator Lopez requested for the letters that are sent
310 to the chair of his committee be sent to the members as well so they can ask them
311 questions and to get all the information that they may want to know. She puts it in their
312 hands to interview to the best of their ability. Senator Lopez asked if they can receive all
313 the information about the people be interviewed and what seats are available and how
314 many and what not. Senator Martinez asked if those first seven who got interviewed
315 when he got in he wants to know we haven't interviewed those seven being that we did
316 mentioned to them that they are going. Tresor mentioned that if the senate could forward
317 people they feel they want as far as being applicable for these positions. Every single
318 person who has a letter on file they are always considered time and time again. Senator
319 Maeastas is asking if the seven that were recommended and have already gone through the
320 process can they be submitted again. Senator Rael mentioned that the other seven who
321 were not selected in the last semester they were not all recommended by approval by the
322 committee. Senator Maestas made a motion to un-table item six presidential appointments

323 to be back on the floor and to make a vote. Senator Lopez had the second. Senator Siben
324 doesn't understand the rule that is being applied here. The motion carried
325 Item Six is un-tabled.

326 Senator Rael mentioned that the committee did recommend Courtney and Juan into the
327 Senate. Another part of it was that they wanted to know what the deal was with the past
328 appointee's. Since it's all been clarified and now yields the floor to Courtney.

329 Courtney Ferguson is a sophomore and is one of the twirlers and fundraiser and president
330 of the twirling club. Some ideas she had for senate was called trick o treat so kids could
331 eat and everyone trick o treats for canned foods. Senator Lopez asked what her current
332 GPA is. She mentioned it was a 3.7 and wants to be involved and have a say in the
333 decisions being made and events being made. She thinks that she has really good ideas
334 and wants to be involved in the events that are going on. Butts asked if she can make the
335 time commitments as far as meetings and committee meetings. She really understands
336 and works well with others. Senator Siben asked what the most important issues that
337 students face are right now concerning students. From what she's heard is that the
338 university has a big retention problem with lack of activities. Senator Bernard asked if we
339 can move on to the next applicant because of the time constraints we have.

340 Juan Silva he's a senior and has played football here. He is in his student career. He's
341 been here for three years and he has been involved in different events on campus. He's
342 helped put on lots events. He just wants to give back to the university. He sees that things
343 are changing and he wants to help make the difference on campus and he believe that
344 everything starts with the senate. Senator Siben asked to give to examples as to things
345 he's helped changed. He mentioned that he was an RA and that Connor had some
346 problems and him and other RA's who have changed the atmosphere where they want to
347 bring in the good people and take out the bad. He's raised the bars for RA's and has
348 believed he's made a difference. He mentioned that every time he had an event that he
349 made sure the big people were there. He was asked if he would have time for the senate
350 and he said that as far as time constraints he doesn't have a problem at all. Senator Means
351 asked why he decided to join the senate late and not when we had open seats at the
352 beginning. He felt he wasn't ready at that time. He was building his leadership skills and
353 trying to get more involved. His events that he puts on he's learned how to work well
354 with others with unity and get the things done. Senator Lopez asked what other new ideas
355 he could bring to help the community along with the university. He would like to bring a
356 firework show for the community and a carnival along with that. He thinks that senate
357 and university would get a lot of respect for that. During the semester he feels that a
358 better relationship needs to be made with everything and invite the community to our
359 events. He feels that the university is in a great position and have a good bonding to reach
360 out to the community. He feels he would be a great asset and is willing to everyone and
361 help bring up the reputation of the senate and bring our name up. Senator Means asked
362 when he planned to graduate and he said this may. So how does he feel to accomplish
363 what he has talked about in four months. And he mentioned that he is going to stay here
364 for a while because he is going to propose in February. Senator Maeastas made a motion
365 to move into executive session and Senator Ulibarri had the second. The senate went into
366 executive session at 9:36 p.m.

367 Senator Maestas made a motion to get out of executive Senator Apodaca had the second.
368 9:46 p.m. we came out of executive session.

369 Senator Matstas made a motion to vote Senator Lopez had the second.
370 The senate voted and has selected Juan Silva to fill the position. Congratulations to this
371 individual.

372 H. Appeals

373 X. Committee Reports

374 XI. Comments

375

376 XII. Set Time and Date for Next Regular Meeting

377 Senator Maestas made a motion to have our next meeting on February 1, 2009 at 7:30 Senator
378 Siben had the second.

379 For: 7

380 Against: 9

381 Pres. Pro Temp made a motion to have the next meeting on the 25th of January at 7:30 p.m

382 Senator Durham had the second motion carried.

383 XIII. Adjourn

384 Senator Means has one comment to let you know if you know a person Michael Esquibel who
385 played rugby and he's alumni who just died in a train crash and please show respect. He will let
386 everyone know when the memorial services are when he finds out.

387 Senator Martinez made a motion to adjourn and Senator Salas had the second. Meeting was
388 adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

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