

Associated Student of New Mexico Highlands University
4th Regular Senate Meeting
Sunday March 2nd, 2014 @3pm
Governance Room (SUB 3rd Floor)

I. Call Meeting to Order: 3:03pm

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Crystal (Tina) Sione (Graduate)	Present
Juan Sanchez (Undergraduate)	Present
Grace Thompson (Undergraduate)	Present
Kemoy Christie (Undergraduate)	Absent
Guillermo Martinez (Undergraduate)	Present
Adam Brister (Graduate)	Present
Maria Alaena Romero (Undergraduate)	Absent
Ramon M. Martinez (Undergraduate)	Present
Gabriel Cordova (Undergraduate)	Present
Easton Hargrave (Undergraduate)	Absent
Krystol Myers (Undergraduate)	Present
Jordan Williamson (Undergraduate)	Present
Devon Allen (Undergraduate)	Present
Joseph Dominguez (Undergraduate)	Absent
Danisha Phipps (Undergraduate)	Present
Kushum Shrestha (Undergraduate)	Absent
Ryan Andrews-Armijo (Undergraduate)	Present
Juan Jauregui (Undergraduate)	Present
Sheneika Rochester (Undergraduate)	Present
Jereece Maxwell (Undergraduate)	Present
Kenneth Ryan (Graduate)	Present
Geno Castillo (Graduate)	Present
Gia LaFerriere (Graduate)	Present
Khanh Pham (Graduate)	Present
Vincent Nolasco (Graduate)	Present
Julio P. Garcia (Graduate)	Present

IV. Approval of Agenda: Motion made by- Armijo, 2nd by Cordova
 Motion passes unanimously

V. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting: Motion made by- Castillo, 2nd by LaFerriere
 Motion passes unanimously

VI. Unanimous and General Consent:

Dean Trujillo expressed congratulations to the HU Singers for their sold-out performance of "Grease". It was a great joy to see the auditorium so packed and the student talent was incredible. Congratulations to the cast, crew, and all responsible for the production.

Congratulations to Erik Rangel for qualifying for nationals in wrestling. Good luck in Cleveland Ohio! – Secretary Thompson

Good job to the track team and those who qualified for nationals. – President Sione

****Recognize Phipps to the senate at 3:08pm****

Good job to the Vatos Rugby team. –President Sione

VII. Action Items

A. Vacancies

1. Julio P. Garcia - applying for graduate senate seat. Expressing to help bridge the gap between students and student government.
2. Vincent Nolasco - brings professionalism, helping to coordinate and organize events. Has experience with various tasks.

Motion to move to executive session: Motion made by- Senator Rochester, 2nd by Senator Phipps. Motion passes unanimously.

Motion to exit executive session: Motion made by-Senator Cordova, 2nd by Senator Phipps. Motion passes unanimously.

Motion made by Senator Rochester to admit both gentlemen into senate, 2nd by Senator Meyers. 2 for: Senator Castillo and Senator Brister- both brings professionalism. Motion passes unanimously.

Oath of Office administered to Senator Garcia and Senator Nolasco by Dr. Trujillo.

B. Bills and Resolutions

1. Clubs, Organizations, and Individuals

- i. Mecha de NMHU- Requesting money to go to the national convention. They have done other means of fundraising. Ten students are going. Social aspects and immigration reform will be topics at the event. Learning about different topics and bringing that knowledge back to NMHU. Asking for \$250. Dr. Trujillo speaks highly of this club. Finance Committee recommended that we give them: \$250. Motion made by Senator Cordova, 2nd by Senator Meyers. 2 for: President Sione, Senator Jauregui. Against: None Motion passes unanimously.
- ii. Octavio G. Ayala, Corey Rivas, Jesus Rivas- Undergrads and graduate students. Wanting to study the ecosystem of a tropical area. It will offer good field experience for these NMHU students. 15-17 students with 2 students. They have plans to do a fifty-fifty drawing for fundraising. Plans to take this trip in the beginning of May. Would benefit the

research aspects of this institution. Dr. Trujillo, Dr. Romero both spoke on this club. Recommendation \$1000

Motion to give them \$1500 by Senator Brister, 2nd by Senator Castillo

2 for: Senator Williamson, Senator Ryan- good opportunity

2 against: Senator Phipps, Senator Rochester

Motion passes 7 for, 6 against, 4 abstentions.

- iii. Women for a Change Club- funding for their events: 1. International Women's Day is coming up. They have different activities planned for that day. 2. Open-mic in April, to be held at the SUB. Club is between 10-12 members. Asking for \$500. Recommended amount by Finance Committee : \$250
Motion made by Senator Cordova, 2nd by Senator Williamson
2 for: Sen. Williamson, Sen. Allen
against: none
Motion passes unanimously.
- iv. NMHU International Humanitarian Delegation- fifth year as a club. Trip to Honduras to help build infrastructures. They have done various humanitarian type trips. Working with habitat for humanity. Always give presentations after their trips, planning on doing the same. Presentations on campus will be given. Asking for \$1500. Total cost of trip is \$9300. Six members in the club. Have raised \$3000. Recommended \$1000 by Finance Committee
Motion set by Senator R. Martinez, 2nd by Senator Meyers
2 for: Sen. Williamson, President Sione; Against: None
Motion passes: unanimously
- v. NMHU Vatos- Vatos has been a club for 19 years. First year as a college club instead of a men's club. Asking for transportation, housing, and food for travel to the sweet 16 where they will play University of Denver. Asking for \$3000. Recommended by Finance Committee: \$1000
Motion to give \$1000 from undergrad, \$500 from graduate by Castillo, 2nd by Senator Ryan
2 for: Sen. Laferriere, Sen. Ryan
Motion passes unanimously.
- vi. Alfonso Trujillo- funding for research and to further their development. His project is looking at the bullfrog and the effect it has on the toad. It is an invasive species. So the bullfrog comes in and eats all the wood house toads. Asking for funding to get transmitters and put them on the bullfrogs in the amount of \$667. Recommended by Graduate Committee: \$667
Motion made by Sen. Jauregui, 2nd by Sen. Castillo
2 for: Sen. Brister, Sen. R. Martinez; Against: None
Motion passes unanimously

- vii. Anita Lavadie- Studying the effects of the Las Conchas Fire on water quality. She graduated from Highlands in forestry. She is a firefighter herself. Asking for \$500. Graduate Committee recommended allocation of \$500
Motion set by Sen. Cordova, 2nd by Sen. Phipps
2 for: Sen. Cordova, Sen. Castillo; Against: None
Motion passes unanimously

2. Constitutional Amendments

- i. Constitution language Attorney General to Parliamentarian. - Change the language from Attorney General to Parliamentarian. Language needs to be changed throughout constitution. See attached Resolution # 2.
Steering and Rules Committee recommends approval
Motion made by Sen. Castillo, 2nd by Senator Cordova
2 for: Attorney General Martinez, Senator Sanchez; Against: None
Motion passes unanimously

VIII. Officer's Reports:

- A. President Tina Sione: Thank you for doing your jobs.
- B. Vice President Juan Sanchez: Needing information regarding the picture process
- C. Treasurer Khemoi Christie: Not present
- D. Secretary Grace Thompson: Report from faculty senate including information about plus or minus grading procedures, consortium student requirements, and bookstore feedback request.
- E. Attorney General Guillermo Martinez: There will be a meeting after this meeting.
- F. President Pro Tempt Joseph Dominguez: Not present
- G. Chair Committees: Activities, Finance, Steering and Rule, Presidential App, Graduate, Marketing, Justice.

IX. New Business:

X. Old Business:

- XI. Dean of Students Report – Dr. Fidel J. Trujillo: There will be an upcoming presidential forum about the recent legislative session and FY 2015 budget, strongly encourages students to attend. There are five or six proposed constitutional amendments to go over and if passed in committee, will be presented during the next senate meeting. The process outlined in the constitution prescribes that the amendments be approved by 2/3 of student senate vote for placement on the ballot for the general election; the student body must ratify by a majority vote in the general election; and the Board of Regents must approve in order for changes to be in effect. The Steering and Rules Committee has been diligently reviewing proposed amendments. There have been some complaints regarding students bringing in their pets to university settings and calling them service animals. The Dean is working on drafting a policy to address this and to be in compliance with ADA requirements. Another issue recently resolved surrounds letters to international parents about graduating students. The International Education Center (Tina Clayton) will handle these requests and write up to five letters to family members. Additional requests, within reason, will be considered by the Dean of Students.

XII. Public Comments:

Concern from Sen. Rochester about service animals leaving hair on seats and the custodians are not cleaning it.

Congrats to Cece Cordova for placing first at recent track meet in pole vault. – Sen. Cordova.

Senator Brister raised concerns about the safety of students when attempting to utilize the cross-walks on National. The paint is faded and drivers do not obey the speed limit. Solutions included flashing orange caution lights and repainting the crosswalks. Multiple senators brought up other safety concerns that have been brought to their attentions. They included numerous potholes throughout the campus and the intersection between University and 8th street.

XIII. Set Date and Time of Next Meeting: March 23rd, 2014. Motion made by Senator Cordova, 2nd by Senator Armijo. Motion passes unanimously.

XIV. Adjournment: 5:14pm. Motion made by Sen. Castillo, 2nd by Sen. Armijo. Motion passes unanimously.