**Associated Students of New Mexico Student Senate Meeting**

**Sunday, August 30, 2015, 2015, 5:00 p.m.**

**NMHU Governance Room, SUB 3rd Floor**

* *Call Meeting to Order:* Time of 5:02 by Vice President Cordova.
* *Pledge of Allegiance*
* *Approval of Agenda*- Motion to add Roll Call to the agenda and to swear in new senators to the ASNMHU Senate (Senator Meyers) second by (Senator LaFerriere) (15 for - 0 abstention) (Agenda is approved as amended.)
* *Swearing in new senator(s)*- Senator Angelica Gonzalez was administered the Oath of Office by Dr. Fidel Trujillo
* *Roll Call*

Joseph Dominguez **Present**

Gabriel Cordova **Present**

Alaena Romero **Present**

Danisha Phipps **Present**

Natasha Lujan **Absent**

Leticia Merrills-Gonzalez **Present**

Rachael Zayas **Presnt**

John Ramon Vigil **Present**

Angelica Gonzalez **Present**

Tarissa Mellin **Present**

Alejandra Roa **Present**

Ariadna Izaguirre **Present**

Shyann Romero Martinez **Present**

Joshua Alcon **Present**

Tamlyn Crain **Present**

Chantel Rivera **Present**

Trenton Ward **Present**

Krystol Myers **Present**

Xiaowei Wu **Present**

Jereece Maxwell **Present**

Isaac Lopez **Present**

Giavanna LaFerriere **Present**

*General Consent*- Vice President Cordova welcomes the new and previous senators back to ASNMHU Senate. -Addressing attire and explaining his preference that Senators should dress in business or business/casual attire.

-**Cell Phone**- Emergencies can be taken outside and clubs and organizations need to be focused on.

-**Absences**- Please be at every meeting and you are allowed 3 unexcused absences, per a constitutional amendment that was approved last spring. If you are going to be absent please let the executives know ahead of time.

* Senator Vigil congratulated the NMHU women’s track team and their successful season. He also congratulates the NMHU Vatos Rugby Club.
* Dean Trujillo stated that it would be a good idea for officers (Senators and Executives) to give brief introductions. Dr. Trujillo also explained the “General Consent” agenda item as a way for members to introduce items/discussion points that are not controversial and would not require debate. The example of Senator Vigil offering congratulations to athletic teams and clubs was highlighted. Senators should ideally provide their general consent items in writing and hand them to the Secretary for inclusion in the minutes.
* Senator Meyers explained that this week is Rez Fest, activities and events hosted by the Office of Housing and Student Conduct. She encouraged ASNMHU members to attend each resident hall activity.
* *ASNMHU Vacancies- Action Items*
  + Undergraduate Senator: (One Vacancy) Motion to table the action item was made by Senator Vigil, Seconded by Senator Maxwell. The item shall be tabled until an NMHU student expresses interest, submits resume and detailed explanation on what they can bring to benefit the ASNMHU Student Senate. As well, the Presidential Appointment Committee has not yet been named.
  + Graduate Senator (School of Social Work): Motion to table the action item was made by Senator Zayas, Seconded by Senator Meyers. The item shall be tabled until an NMHU graduate student from the School of Social Work is identified/expresses interest and submits required documentation.
  + Parliamentarian: Nomination of Marcus Garcia to serve as Parliamentarian for 2015-16 was made by President Dominguez. Mr. Garcia accepted the nomination and spoke about his qualifications, including serving as Parliamentarian last year. He is familiar with the constitution and by-laws as well as the responsibilities of the Steering and Rules Committee which is Chaired by the Parliamentarian.
    - Motion to approve the nomination Marcus Garcia as Parliamentarian made by Senator Vigil, second by Senator Rivera.
    - Senator Maxwell and President Dominguez spoke in favor of the motion.
    - Unanimous vote for approval (15 votes yes) Parliamentarian Garcia is sworn in by Dr. Trujillo.
  + President Pro-Tempore: Senator John Ramon Vigil was nominated by Senator Merrills- Gonzalez; second by Senator Ward. Senator Vigil accepted the nomination and discussed his credentials, energy, and leadership skills.
    - No other nominations were made.
    - Vote was unanimous (15 yes votes) President Pro-Temp Vigil was sworn in by Dr. Trujillo.
* *Treasure Report***:** Budget breakdown provided by Treasurer Phipps. She explained that the Executive Cabinet met recently with Advisor, Dr. Trujillo and Yvonne Duran, administrative assistant to develop the budget for 2015-16. (See attached budget)
* **Budget Proposal** *(Article II, Section 7-7)*
  1. The Graduate Committee is charged with developing minimum amounts from graduate student fees to be allocated towards research and professional development, as well as percentage of fees allocated to ASNMHU for operational costs. This will be discussed further when the graduate committee meets.
  2. The issue of “caps” or “limitations’ on funding requests (amount and number of times) was discussed and the Parliamentarian requested feedback for inclusion in the by-laws.
  3. All allocation of funds will be reviewed and discussed by either the graduate committee and/or the finance committee. The committees make recommendations. Senate can approve, reject, or modify the recommendation of the committees. President can veto. Senate may overturn veto by 2/3 vote. All approved bills require appropriate signatures. How to introduce legislation will be covered at the Retreat.
  4. Relinquishing Stipends was addressed by Senator Merrills-Gonzales and the process was clarified by Dean Trujillo. If members (Senators and/or Executives) do not wish to be paid a stipend as allowed in the constitution, they can submit a written request to not get paid. Dr. Trujillo’s office will communicate the request to Financial Aid and the stipend award will simply not get posted on the student’s account.
  5. Senate Telephone- (Senator Vigil) asks if the Senate phone could be reduced, or if it is even needed at all. (Treasurer Phipps) explains that that issue needs to be taken up with the secretary in Dean Trujillo’s office. Dr. Trujillo stated that the telephone is necessary, not only so constituents and university stakeholders to be able to contact/communicate with ASNMHU, but it may also be a health and safety issue whereby each university office is required to have a phone for such things as emergency notifications.
  6. Audience Member, Ryan Andrews-Armijo, addresses the line item of “Travel” on the ASNMHU agenda and asks for clarification on the line item. (President Dominguez) explains that the executives have met and are seeking funds for travel to the HACU conference or ASGA conferences for professional development. Dean Trujillo spoke in favor of allocating funds for professional development opportunities, conferences, and so that student representatives can have opportunities to interact with student leaders from other campuses and get ideas for what other campuses and student governments are doing in order to customize best-practices here at NMHU. Senator Maxwell asked why only executives are allowed to attend the conferences. President Dominguez stated that it was conceived as an incentive for students to run for executive positions, and that executives represent leadership, but that professional development opportunities can be open to anyone. The topic of fundraising was brought up and the equal share of funding. Consensus was that conferences, professional development opportunities should be inclusive, not limited to a few. President Dominguez stated that the amount initially earmarked for professional development can be reallocated in the clubs and organizations line item instead. Dr. Trujillo reminded officers that they are students, too, and can request funds from ASNMHU for legitimate purposes.
  7. Dean Trujillo brought up the topic of graduation stoles for graduating senators and requested a quick head-count of how many officers will be graduating and walking the line in the Spring.
  8. Treasurer Phipps explained that there is to be NO LATE BILLS and legislation must be turned in to the Finance Committee on the Wednesday at 3:00pm before that upcoming week’s meeting.
  9. (Senate will not able to accept bills and resolutions until the third regular meeting on September 27th because committee’s need to be formulated.
  10. Dean Trujillo announced that the first Club and Organization meeting will be on September 4, 2015 at 12:00 in the ASNMHU chambers on the third floor. Students on ASNMHU Senate can also create bills and ask for financial assistance for clubs or research. He asked that the Parliamentarian and other officers be present to discuss by-laws and procedures for requesting and securing funding from ASNMHU.
  11. Motion to table the 2015-2016 budget proposal (Senator Gonzalez) second by (Senator Izaguirre) motion is tabled unanimously **(15 yes votes)**
* *2015-16 By-Laws:* Parliamentarian Marcus Garciapresented by-laws from last year and requested feedback or suggestions for any changes for this year.
  + Dean Trujillo stated that guidance on the matter of the funding cap and number of times that clubs and organizations can come to request funding should be provided because of the timeliness of information we needed to share with clubs and organizations. By-Laws were reviewed one by one.
  + (Parliamentarian Garcia) explains the changes that he plans to address and add to the by-laws. He also mentions that the By-Laws will be distributed to ASNMHU senators and executives.
  + General consensus was that the funding request limit should be raised from the current $250 per request to $500 per request. The number of times requests can be made by individuals or clubs shall remain at once per semester.
* Motion to Un-Table the Budget (Approval of Budget) made by Senator Vigil and second by Senator Ward
  + 9 For – 5 against- 2 abstention
    - *Budget is un-tabled*
    - President Dominguez suggested that the money from “Travel” can be placed back into the budget and shirts to be re-ordered and will be the same as the previous year’s shirt. The Treasurer provided an update as to what the line item amounts would be to reflect the change.
    - Motion made by Senator Merrills-Gonzalez, Second by Senator Zayas to approve the budget as amended
    - 15 for-1 against- Abstentions (Motion Passes)
* *Parliamentarian Garcia opens the floor to the discussion of the financial “Cap”.* 
  + Motion set by (Senator Vigil) to raise the cap to $500.00 and review each second by (Senator Izaguirre)
  + 13 For- 3 Against- 0 Abstentions. Motion passes. Parliamentarian Garcia will incorporate into by-laws.
* *Graduate Committee Budget Proposal: (Article 2, Section 7-7)*
  + Motion to table graduate committee budget by Senator Izaguirre second by Senator Crain; Motion passes unanimously.
* *Student Senate Retreat:* Senator Vigil discussed various ideas for the ASNMHU retreat. Other Senators also provided feedback. They include:
  + Extending invitations to NMHU Staff
  + Engaging senators in team building activates and goal setting.
  + “Albuquerque Adventure” discussed in the context of a retreat actually being held off campus.
* *Discussion Items:* 
  + Committee Assignments:
    - Faculty Senate: (Senator Izaguirre and Senator Romero-Martinez)
  + Other committee chairs will be determined by another time, e-mails be sent out to Secretary Romero in order to convey which Committees members are interested in serving on.
  + Date and Time of Fall Meetings: Sunday at 5:00pm
  + Motion to table initiatives for 2015-16 until the Retreat was made by Senator Crain second by Senator Alcon. Motion passed unanimously.

* *Officer Reports*

1. **President -** Joseph Dominguez – Welcomes new senators and outlined three initiatives he highlighted at the Freshman Convocation: 1. “It’s On Us Campaign” from the White House on preventing violence against women; encouraging students and student athletes to sign a pledge, have forums and activities around the campaign and promote bystander intervention, paint the logo on university athletic facilities; 2. Food Pantry for students and campus community members facing the serious issue of hunger. 1 in 6 Americans go hungry every day and we can do something about it; 3. More social events/activities such as frequent/regular Club HU dances so students have a venue to socialize and blow off steam.
2. **Vice President**—Gabriel Cordova - Vice President Cordova would like to acknowledge the attire of each senator and the requirement of attendance for Senators and also reminded them to be respectful of gallery members by not texting or browsing during meetings.
3. **Secretary-** Alaena Romero- Political Science Club will meet Wednesday at 7:00 in Douglas 214.
4. **Treasurer:** -Danisha Phipps- Report was given earlier in meeting.
5. **Parliamentarian** – Marcus Garcia thanked ASNMHU for voting him back in as Parliamentarian. He looks forward to a productive year.
6. **President Pro-Tempore**: John Ramon Vigil- Thanked the students for voting him into the president Pro-Tempore position and pledged to earn respect as well as to work collaboratively with everyone in the spirit of unity.

* *Dean of Students Report* --- Dr. Fidel J. Trujillo
  1. Student Support Services Grant explanation and discussion. Discussed the discretionary grant funding process, the status of the NMHU SSS proposal, efforts to reach out to congressional delegation for intervention, and proposals for continuation of direct student services such as academic advisement, tutoring, and academic enrichment activities that SSS was providing. A plan is under consideration for making sure that direct services to students continue.
  2. Closure of Connor Hall. Decision was made in consultation with the Housing Director and VP for Finance in consideration of 1) low occupancy rates in Connor and 2) infrastructure repairs needed in the facility. Those students who were assigned to Connor were reassigned to the residence hall listed as their second preference or to default rooms in Melody Hall and Archuleta Hall. Cost-differentials were addressed on a case-by-case basis and financial assistance was made available to those with demonstrated need.
  3. Legislative Finance Council will be on campus *September 3, 2015.* We will also be hosting a visit from Northcentral Accreditation on September 28-29 that is very important for the university.
  4. Emergency Response Plan is being updated.
  5. Encouraged ASNMHU to reach out to students from NMHU Center campuses. Low-hanging fruit include sponsoring a bus for students from Santa Fe and Rio Rancho to attend a football game, possible Homecoming.

XIII. Public Comments: - None

XIV. Set Date/Time of Next Meeting: Retreat on September 12, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at NMHU Rio Rancho. Motion made by Senator Vigil, Second by Senator Alcon. Discussion included request for an agenda and budget for the retreat. Senator Vigil said that an emergency meeting prior to the Retreat might be in order. If an emergency meeting is necessary, members will be notified at least 24 hours in advance. Motion to set date and time of next meeting passed unanimously.

XV. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn made by Senator Izaguirre, second by (Senator Roa) Motion passed unanimously.