Associated Students of New Mexico Highlands University

Regular Meeting: September 4, 2008 7:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order
The regular meeting of the Associated Students of New Mexico Highlands University was called to order at 7:37 p.m on September 14, 2008.

II. Pledge of Allegiance:

III. Roll Call:

IV. Approval of Agenda:
Senator Apodaca tabled Second by Senator Rael
A motion was made to add Item I. International Students Tuition for Institution Rates to be brought down after two semesters by Senator Siben second was made by Senator Tresor.
Vice President Butts mentioned that it might be tabled because we are on a time limit.
Motion to approve agenda by Senator Rael the second was made by Senator Siben.
Senator Roseby recognized to her seat at 7:42 p.m.

V. Approval of Minutes:
Line 37 by instead of my
Senator Roseby made a motion to approve the minutes Senator D. Ulibarri second the motion.

VI. Officer Reports

A. President Parra-Perez:
President Parra-Perez started off by saying that we only had two hours for the meeting, anything that didn’t get done would be tabled for the next meeting to get taken care of effectively and efficiently. The way the voting was to take place was two for and two against with discussion with voting immediately proceeding. Two weeks of pleasure came with a great start and great participation. Rush week was the following week. Teams are getting points for attending. The Santa Fe and Albuquerque parades went really well. At the Santa Fe parade the Ambassador placed first in the cowboy area.
President Parra-Perez did mention that we needed to get everyone’s shirt sizes. Donna Martinez contacted her and wants us to help sponsor some of the event that will be taking place at Ilfield which would allow them to let students in for half price or even free. Also, Senator Marquez’s grandfather passed away and Senator Durham’s grandmother passed away as well and asked if we could keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

B. Vice President Butts:
Vice President Butts went over the voting process again being that we are on a time limit we will have two people who can speak for the motion on the table and only two who can peak against it. She thanked everyone for the great turn outs at the first week of two weeks of pleasure and all that participated in events. Things will be different the following week because not everyone is expected to go because everything is done
within groups in which one is involved. Vice President Butts mentioned that the football players played a good game and were ahead up to the last two minutes of the game which resulted in a loss to Mesa State. She also mentioned that there was a player who was injured and had to go through surgery. The soccer team lost both games this weekend.

C. Secretary Quintana:
Secretary Quintana thanked everyone who participated and showed up to all the events for the first week of two weeks of pleasure and encouraged everyone to keep up the great work and promptness for the following week. She also reminded everyone about the corrections of their business cards and informed everyone that she couldn’t submit paper work until she had all the correct information needed so that way there wouldn’t be any other mistakes on the business cards. Secretary Quintana then stood for questions.

D. Treasure Lopez:
Treasure Lopez mentioned that he would be putting together a budget breakdown of what has been spent thus far for the next meeting and would have that ready for everyone. Treasure Lopez also mentioned that the Finance Committee had met earlier in the day and all made an amendment that they want a speaker to be present at every meeting in which they have submitted bills and resolutions for. They want them to meet with them first and then with the senate. This way if any questions need to be asked before making a recommendation could be done at this time by the Finance Committee. All the Finance Committee meetings will be held at 6:30 before every regular meeting for anyone who wishes to attend. Treasure Lopez then stood for questions.

E. President Pro- Temp C. Ulibarri:
President Pro- Temp C. Ulibarri thanked for all the participation from the last week and hopes to see everyone participating the next week.

F. Vice President Cordova-Romero:

G. Faculty Representative:
Dr. Peter Linder. Started off by stating that he is a representative for the undergraduate senate this year. He did serve in this position last year. The Faculty Senate met on Wednesday and they were taking up with two of the things that have come up in the senate meetings. The reorganization of the Colleges of Arts and Sciences has split up into 5 departments which might split up into eleven splitting up things even more. The departments have to be representative despite the amount of people in the committee’s. Upcoming accreditation by the North Central Association is also coming a year early and they are a little worried about this. There are a lot of things that need to be done in terms of their visit. With this accreditation the students we graduate are able to do what we want them to do in terms of doing jobs and going on to graduate school and what not and making sure we have these things in place. Finally, one thing the Faculty Senate would like is from someone from the Undergraduate Senate to attend their meetings. This is very valuable in terms of what they are up to and being able to
see and hear and understand things from the student perspective. The next faculty
meeting is a week from this coming Wednesday in Kennedy Lounge. They meet every
second and fourth Wednesday of every month starting at 3:00 p.m.

VII. Old business:
A. Career center- Ron Garcia (tabled)
Senator Rael made a motion to table the Career Center and Senator JP had the second.
Senator Bernard and Senator Ndem were recognized to their seats at 7:55 p.m.
Senator Tresor wanted to talk about the career center because he is interested in what
students who graduate are doing. He also wants to know how hard and easy it is to find
jobs and internships upon completion of graduation. How good they are doing after they
graduate and etc. Last semester they had someone working there who was Natasha Padilla
and now he is unsure of who has taken over this position. We have about 3,000 students
enrolled at Highlands and ratios to him are just not enough. He can’t just have one person
taking care of this large amount of students. Last time the Vice President said she had a
particular interest in this however all she could do was just update on the status on the
career. Vice President Cordova-Romero mentioned that they have a full time director right
now. Mrs. Padilla is no longer with the university. There is one person who’s his only
commitment is to check up on these students. The Director, who is Ron, has 20 years
experience in this field. Hopefully he can move the program forward and get great feedback
from all this hard work that has to be put in. Senator Siben said that as the community
grows then maybe they should try to help the students create some contacts. Like in
business they should help students by bringing in professionals to talk to students about
their job interactions so they can have some kind of interaction with someone who has
experience in those fields. It was mentioned that Ron wants to develop internships. With
the five people there it has created opportunity for students to come and look into these
internships and co-ops.

Senator Maestas was recognized to his seat at 8:00 p.m.
President Parra-Payette said that Ron e-mailed her and asked if the senate could talk to their
100 students and get the word out to encourage people to come out to this event. This will
be done this coming week.

Senator Siben wants to see employers who can help international students as well.

B. Accreditation- Dr. Hill-
Thanked the senate for inviting her to come speak. Dr. Hill is a psychology professor here
at the University. She mentioned that NMHU's is accredited by the regional creditors. They
are called the higher learning admission. This is to send grades and transfers to various
places where they will be official. If we were not accredited we would shut down. Every ten
years you have to go through an accreditation visit. The next one is in 2009. It is important
that everyone around the community gets involved. They are working on getting a draft
written and will be opened for public comments for the spring. They would like some
student visitation in that process. They have a steering committee and five working groups.
They would like more students and as much student input as possible. She is going to e-mail
Vice President Butts as to what these concerns and questions may be and try to get
everyone to communicate to the student body. They want as much participation as possible. Initiative they are starting here at campus and the problem we have here at NMHU is accessing the learning of our students. They have programs that have been in place for over 100 years that students don’t even know are in place. We need to be able to tell people that they are doing their jobs and that students are getting what they expect as far as learning and leaving here with the appropriate materials and information needed. They want to develop a coherent program that looks at very different aspects on our community individually and as a whole. They want to survey the senate and staff as well. This is the first part of the process they want to see what kind of perspectives as of what a New Mexico Highlands graduate should look like and design an assessment process to see if they are getting where others see the vision to be.

Senator Tresor asked when she wanted the survey to be ready. She said she doesn’t serve on that committee and that they should already have it ready and should be getting e-mails from her this week on these two issues.

C. Candidate Debate:

There is a Candidate Debate that will be taking place this Saturday (September 20, 2008 and Mel Root is sitting in the gala. They want students to attend this event, But what they are asking is that the first 20 min be dedicated for student questioning the next will be for the community. There will be snacks and refreshments. Senator Salas agreed to be the moderator for this. It will be in the Student Senate Chambers at 10 a.m. Vice President Cordova-Romero mentioned that many students should attend even if they can’t vote. They have a significant part of the past here at NMHU. They want people to vote and hear what they have to say. They will be talking about their background and platform and want at least 5 questions from the students and want the questions pre-selected. Then they want the public to ask questions. This is the first of their two or three debates.

D. Bill #1: Performing Arts Club seen D. Ulibarri-

Senator D. Ulibarri yielded the floor to Senator Fields. Senator Field then read a letter from the person who was supposed to represent this bill because he/she couldn’t be there at the meeting. The letter started off by apologizing for not being in attendance for this meeting because they are preparing for their next performance which is soonly coming up. They are hoping for the senate to approve their asking of $250. Currently they are working on a comedy show, that will be shown in Kennedy Hall on October 3,4,5 and the others will be shown in Illfield throughout the year. They have asked for donations from local business.

Their asking of money will be used for needed materials. $60 for 4 gallons of page $40 for printing of the posters and signs needed.

Vice President Butts asked for two people to speak for it and two to speak against it.

For:

Senator Rael: Mentioned that they might not seem as an active group on campus but they do reach out to the community and represent NMHU in a positive way.

The recommendation of the Finance Committee was asked and it was stated that they did made a recommendation to approve the full amount.
Senator Siben made a motion to approve Bill 1 for full amount the second was made by
Senator D. Ulibarri.
Bill # 1 was passed for $250.
E. Bill #2 ALFA Senator JP Martinez:
The yield the floor to the ALFA representative. Ilene Madrid asked for the $250. They are
active with two various events. They are asking for the money for travel expenses. They
have a convention in Massachusetts in the fall.
For:
Senator Tresor: Mentioned that he knows the association and is a member of the
association. Two weeks ago they went to Arizona for a convention they had a lot of
students be able to make contact with them and were able to bring job opportunities for
them.
Senator Siben: Mentioned that he wants to encourage this because it allows for career
building on campus. He likes the club because it’s open to a diversity of groups.
Against:
Motion was sought to approve the bill.
Senator Tresor made a motion to approve Bill 2 for full amount and Senator Siben had the
second.
Bill #2 passed for the amount of $250
F. Bill # 3 Ambassadors-President Pro Temp Ulibarri
Yield the floor to President Parra Perez
Yields the floor to Ilene Madrid: Ilene Madrid mentioned that they do various events and
campus community service and always involved in rush week. They won second place last
year. They do campus tours for individuals or for group tours. They do lots of fundraisers.
They want the $250 for a haunted house that’s going to be done in October the money
would go to costumes for people participating in the haunted house.
Questions:
Senator Siben asked what the haunted house about?
Ilene mentioned that it’s open to the community and they are going to charge an entry fee
that will be reduced for students. There will be different rooms and themes that people go
into such as grave yard, science lab and different themes.
For:
Senator Maeastas stated that we should support this bill because it’s for the community and
also it’s a positive thing for the community and for representation of Highlands.
President Parra-Perez mentioned that one should go to the meetings if you don’t have time
to be a member. They aren’t greedy they are giving 1/3 to the people who helped out with
the parades.
Treasure Lopez mentioned that the recommendation of the Finance Committee was to
approve for the full amount. Just because they are asking for that amount you as senators
can approve a lesser amount or various amounts accordingly and as best seen fit.
Senator D. Ulibarri made a motion to approve for full amount. Senator JP had the second.
Bill # 3 passed for $250.
H. Baton Twirling:

The two representatives mentioned that there are eight members who are interested. They need to purchase uniforms, but they will fundraiser for this. The batons are $25 each and in order for people to practice outside of school they need their own batons.

For:

Senator Lopez mentioned that he sees that they practice hard on and off campus and thinks we should give them the money.

Sendor D. Ulibarri agreed with Senator Lopez and both were her residence and always saw that they were dedicated.

Sendor D. Ulibarri made a motion to approve $250 and Senator Lopez has the second.

I. Resolution #1 Lambda Kappa Psi Senator Glenn:

Yields the floor to the four ladies representing the bill.

Jeannie Montoya is the president. The budget was not attached for Treasure Lopez, along with the bill. It was mentioned that last year they came to see us. They came and miscommunication happened. They want to come to us for our funds to purchase shirts and sweats. Any help would be much appreciated. They have been very active on campus. They started last year on August 31, this is their second year. Along with rush week and pledge they’ve helped with events such as for Club Hu and attending all the events senate has held. They prove that they are active and are going to continue this participation. They want to reunite our students. They will be participating in rush week and are going to have their annual mud volleyball tournament.

Vice President Butts asked what fundraisers they’ve had. Jeannie Montoya said they’ve had bake sales, car washes and dances.

President Parra-Perez asked how many members they have and as of right now there were only 13 members. The reason why all the other members weren’t present at this meeting was because none of them could go because they have school which is their priority. They do what they can to help each other out. They’ve highly supported senate and campus events. President Pro-Temp Ulibarri asked who they faculty advisor was and she said Melany. Senator Otame asked what impact the club has on campus and community. Ms. Montoya mentioned that they have unity and bringing people together and want to keep people interested in highlands and stuff.

Senator Rael asked where they sought their quotes from. What are the monthly dues? She said $20. Senator Torres-Hughes asked how they performed their selection process. She mentioned that it was just a pledge process. They have to be females in college and wants to make sure the person is active at Highlands. One goal is for them to go national and they are ready to move forward.

One of the senators asked if we could go into executive session.

Sendor Rael said we should not go into executive session because they should have the right to hear what we have to say and the reasons for accepting or declining the Bill.

For:
Treasure Lopez mentioned that they are definitely deserving of this money for several reasons. Other fraternities and other sororities got large sum amounts of money. Just to be fair, they can’t be successful without money or funds.

Senator Siben mentioned that he doesn’t really know much of the club. From what they have said and being that they have stood here in front of us should show something. Against:

Senator Rael mentioned that they are active and have worked closely with them and respects them. It’s hard to start a club up. When he was involved with TKE and came for the senate with money they did not come and ask for t-shirts and binders and stuff like that. Every member had to pay a high amount for fees. He doesn’t think this holds very much weight, on the budget he doesn’t see anything that shows anything for seeking to go national level and attention and get accreditation. He would like to see those fee’s being that they are part of goals they should hold high presidency over t-shirts and different things like that.

Senator Maestas mentioned that we should review the budget to suit their more active members and their anticipated members this week would be more appropriate for now. He doesn’t think a lump sum of money would be wrong to award them however, it would be more reasonable amount of money for the amount of numbers they have sought. He wouldn’t mind passing it if they have a significant amount of active members.

Senator Siben makes a motione to approve resolution and Senator Otame had the second. There was subjection to this so we will have to go to a hand count.

Hand raise: in favor: 4
Against: 14

As resolution approved this resolution was not passed.

Vice President Butts mentioned that Lambda kappa psi can come back to re allocate money to different places or change the entire amount from the senate

Senator Ndoping made a motion to approve $500 and the second was made by President Pro-Temp C. Ulibarri.

Point of reference by President Parra-Perez: will take it to a group of people of the school part of the presidential advisory group and then she’ll sign the bill or resolution.

The president has the right to veto this bill.

Senator Otame mentioned that we are here to represent the students and have concern about passing and not passing the bills. It was mentioned that the President has the ability to make an ADHOC committee to review this.

Senator Rael made some comments about the advisory group. It was just for us to get information out to the student body.

Native American club: the community is growing and many students coming in. It would be nice for the tuition to change after someone being in school for a certain amount of time. Most of the students have difficulties finding jobs because they can only work on campus. This will encourage students to stay here at NMHU. This would help them and encourage new students to come.
Vice President Butts mentioned that if we change it for international students then we
would have to change out of state rates and in state students. This would change
different things as far as funding for students. This is set by the Board of Regents, Vice
President Romero-Cordova mentioned and they are set by guidelines. Ours is the
lowest in the region. It would take a lot of convincing of the regents and you would have
to come up with some kind of proposal. We are constitutionally bound by what the
rates should be. They have talked about tuition rates, the international rates are the
lowest in the region for many of our students.

VIII. Committee Reports:

A. Finance: before they make any recommendations they want to meet with the club
spokes person before making any recommendations

B. Presidential appointments/ gov affairs: they have not met because there are no seats.
We have been informed that we have one slot open. President Parra-Perez found this
out at the Board of Regents meeting. Senator Rael will be looking at emailing his
committee this week to let them know when the next meeting will be. He will be asking
people from his committee to be getting their defensive driving course certificates.

C. Steering and rules: They had a meeting last Friday. They want to get guidelines set up
for the scholarship. It’s time for us to update our constitution and bylaws. They need to
be updated every year and constitution every three years. And they are looking over
that. The big thing they discussed was the scholarship. There were two ideas presented.
There was nominating a student and the majority of the vote was a scholarship
application that’s open to all students not just people we know on campus. There were
questions as to how it was going to be awarded. Are we awarding more this year since it
wasn’t awarded next year. It’s $1000 for the year. They can give more than one
scholarship. The budget was set up to allocate two $1,000 scholarships. It was usually
given at the end of the year not the beginning of the semester. There is a process for
awarding the scholarship. You can’t just give the money to a student it has to go
through financial aid. It has to be awarded through their student account. It can be
given out in the middle of the semester. Another question was if it included our
surrounding universities such as Rio Rancho, Raton, etc. People who attend off campus
sites don’t pay off campus fees so therefore it’s made to be as a main campus thing.
Next meeting is on Thursday.

D. Activities:

Senator D. Ulibarri: wants to talk about the Viva Las Vegas theme. There is a signup
sheet for this event. There was a meeting today for either decorating or cleanup crew.
They want everyone to report to the student center at 5 to decorate. There are over 200
balloons to be filled up. Everyone needs to dress up. The flyers were made and a few
changes need to be made. Everyone should be there at 9:30 for this event. Housing is in
charge of VIP and an extra one for a guest. VIP is set for 100 people. Juan got ABL to set
up a table of fruit and cheese. Two fondue fountains and virgin drinks along with poker
tables. There should be No alcohol. No alcohol because we are representing NMHU and
no drinking at or prior to Club Hu.
Treasure Lopez asked if we are doing the dress up days. Those are for homecoming.
If someone can’t find a costume or dress up you must wear your senate or housing polo’s. There are tons of hotels in Vegas in which you can dress up as (themed wise).
Everyone needs to dress up. The clubs that participate get points to dress up as well. At each event everyone needs to sign up with Vice President Butts or President Parra-Perez to receive the points. At this Club Hu they wanted to have the ballroom as a dance floor.
Different music will be played in the ballroom. Today’s regular music will be played in the atrium.

IX. Comments

X. Set time and date:
Senator Rael made a motion to meet on September 28, 2008 at 7:30 p.m and President Pro-Temp had the second.

Senator Rael made motion to adjourn.
President Pro-Temp C. ulbarii had the second.
Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.