ASUNM Special Meeting Agenda
4-1-2020
6:00 PM, at https://unm.zoom.us/j/910971763

1. Opening
   a. Call to Order
      i. Vice President Lucas calls the April 1st, 2020 Full Senate Meeting to order at 6:11 pm
   b. Roll Call
      i. All Senators are present
   c. Approval of Agenda
      i. MOTION to approve the agenda
         1. MOTION is seconded and passed
   d. Approval of Minutes
      i. MOTION to approve the minutes
         1. MOTION is seconded and passed

2. Preliminary Business
   a. ASUNM President
      i. President Biederwolf: Hello everyone, I hope you are all staying safe. I will be signing an executive order to give $30,000 to resource centers for emergency scholarships. We wanted to start our own, but this is easier for students to receive emergency scholarships. This project was spearheaded by Chief of Staff Silva and Deputy Chief of Staff Peña-Parr. We wanted to give back to the students. President Stokes wants GPSA and ASUNM to input for graduation. Graduation has been postponed, so they are looking for new ways to celebrate those seniors. For Bill 9S, whatever happens tonight, we are still on the same team. If you override my veto, we are still on the same team. A couple weeks ago, I received notice that the budget office freed up their debt services that would give money back to ASUNM. This was not admin trying to oversee our government, but a way to help. I chose to accept this and veto because we are in a global pandemic and we have secured funding for as long as Stokes is president of UNM. There is a lot of stress on the backs of students right now, and it would be a bad look for ASUNM to pass this again. We are already in the process of finalizing tuition and fee rates and passing this would push that back. This would not be an ideal situation for students. I am always a big advocate for second chances. This does need to happen, but if we were still on campus, I would still push through for our second chance on the Senate Ballot. I think that we need to figure out what we want to do and
how we want to represent students. I don’t want this bill passing to make ASUNM look bad. There are a lot of students hurting right now, and we need to be there to help them, and shouldn't be asking for a fee increase. There are a lot of questions to be answered with enrollment. We are anticipating a 7% decrease in enrollment, but it could be more. Time is our friend with this situation. We have secured funding for the next 2-3 fiscal years. If it wasn't for this situation, I would be all for this. If this does get passed, I will do everything that I can to help you all out.

1. Sen. Lopez: Where are the funds for the emergency scholarships coming from?
   a. It is coming from the general fund. Since agencies aren’t hosting events, this is helping the students.

2. Sen. Rivera: Will these scholarships be reoccurring?
   a. Right now, it is a one-time deal. It is an executive order so it will run until the end of my term. If there is another crisis, we will know what to do.

3. Sen. Molinar: How will the students be allocated this money? How many students will get the money?
   a. It will come from SGAO and go to the resource centers. The process is from resource centers.
   b. We will try to give $500 to each student that received the scholarship. If anything changes, we might have to lower the amount or such.

4. Sen. Jaffe: Based on what I know on the funds, we should have more than $30,000, where is the other amount going to that we should have? How much is left then?
   a. The rest of the money is sitting in the general fund. This amount is a safe amount to keep us safe.
   b. Sen. Lutz: The money from the agencies isn’t in the general fund yet, it will get there in the fall and be there for budget forwards. We have about $38,000 in the general fund, but we also have some appropriations that we need to pass. Having the extra money is a safety net for ASUNM for charges and such.

5. Sen. Olaguir: Is there a possibility to use more of that funding in the general fund to fund some other initiatives?
   a. It could be possible, we want to help as many students that we can during this time. If it is possible, we will look into it.
   b. Ryan: Those funds are for service entities typically, that would go through SFRB.

b. Public Comment as pertinent to the business at hand
   i. Chief of Staff Silva: I wanted to talk about the logistical side of this. The $30,000 is coming out of the general fund. SGAO brought up some good points: The money that is reverted to the general fund is going to balance
forwards which will go to agencies and orgs. Also, the minimum wage is increasing so we have to cover that. We will also be anticipating more budget requests in the fall due to the small amount of budgets that went through in the spring. With that, this amount seemed like it would be the best. We reached out to a few of the resource centers, and they will be receiving 10 $500 scholarships to allocate to undergrads. We thought that it would be best to have the resource centers use the scholarship process that they already have in place. Due to our lawbook, we cannot transfer the amount of money to their index because of the agencies. When they receive the applications and go through the process, they will give the students name and banner ID and give it to ASUNM and SGAO and then distribute the scholarship. Only undergraduates will receive the scholarship. This funding will go through their bursar's account. Students will not be able to double dip as we will see if other resource centers have given out that student a scholarship. This funding is just for this fiscal year. I know that myself, Sen. Hotz and Sen. Regalado were writing a long term emergency scholarship bill. ASUNM will also be giving out 10 emergency scholarships. This will go through the ASUNM Scholarship Committee, where they will review the scholarships and give them out.

ii. Victoria Peña-Parr: First and foremost, I would love to meet with the O&A Committee and how you think we can advertise these best. We are going to go through UCAM to market this. We will be writing a story about the partnership with ASUNM and the resource centers. We are trying to highlight how we are going to reach to as many students as we can during this time.

iii. Josh Romanowski: What is the total amount of roll-over money for the cancelled events this semester?

1. Sen. Lutz: Right now we do not have the exact number, we only have the number that was budgeted. Agencies can still spend money if it is for their office or ungathered event kind of thing.
2. VP Lucas: For Senate, we have $1,000. For general government we have $890, Elections has $700, Arts and Crafts has $9,000, Community Experience has $4,800, SSE has $750 from Cultural Events and $78,000 from Fiestas. For SWFC, we have $4,500 from Film Rentals and $1,000 from Movie on the Field. Governmental Affairs has $800 and Lobo Spirit has $2,500.

iv. Ashley Varela: What is your guys’ perspectives on some sort of fee refund? I’ve seen other colleges giving refunds for the absence of these events

1. Sen. Jaffee: I agree that there should be a refund. The US Government is refunding the taxes. In our case, ASUNM is not using the money that we have gotten.
2. Sen. Hotz: I think that this argument is valid. As far as ASUNM goes, I have not thought about the refund, so this is something to
look into, even though I do not know how that would work through the bursar's office.

3. Special Business
   a. Outstanding Senator Nominations and Selection Process Explanation
      i. MOTION to open Outstanding Senator Elections
         1. MOTION is seconded and passed
            a. After Nominations, everyone will receive an email to vote for the Outstanding Senator.
            b. Sen. Lopez: I would like to nominate Sen. Hill
               i. Sen. Hill accepts
            c. Sen. Musa: I would like to nominate Sen. Hotz
               i. Sen. Hotz accepts
            d. Sen. Hotz: I would like to nominate Sen. Lutz
               i. Sen. Lutz accepts
            e. Sen. Maus: I would like to nominate Sen. Regalado
               i. Sen. Regalado accepts
            f. Sen. Hotz: I nominated Sen. Lutz because of my experience with her. She has taken the initiative to do such great things. She is one of the most eloquent speakers that I have ever seen. She has taken the time to give the voice to each of her finance senators and gave a presentation about the budget bill.
            g. Sen. Rivera: I think that Sen. Lutz has been such a great finance chair. She has given a bigger voice to the students' orgs. We have heard so much more from their stories and their perspectives during the committee. She has opened the door to that kind of thing. She definitely deserves this kind of award.
            h. Sen. Musa: I nominate Sen. Hotz because ever since I have gotten involved she has stayed a resource for people to get help and advice. She will typically be the first person to reach out to people who have come to public comment. She has maintained a strong resource for everyone. She always wants to help.
            i. Sen. Maus: I nominated Sen. Regalado because it is so clear that he is involved in all the aspects of ASUNM. Whenever we have Senate, he is always reaching out with legislation. He always helps explain things when I do not understand things. He has done more than anyone else to help me get acquainted to Senate.
            j. Sen. Lopez: I think that it has been apparent that Sen. Hill has a passion not just for ASUNM, but for the student orgs. He makes it clear that he is listening to the students voice as a whole. He always wants to listen and help the students.
He has a passion and drive to serve the student body. He always advocates for what the students need and want.

k. Sen. Lutz: I have had a very unique and special opportunity to work with Sen. Hill. I have never worked with someone who is more dedicated or passionate. He genuinely shows interest with the student orgs. He was also engaged during the budget hearings. He talks to the student groups and overall he is very compassionate.

l. Sen. Zank: He was very helpful with some of my legislation when it had slacked off even though we were not on the same committee.

m. Sen. Mondloch: A lot of what has been said is of the utmost truth about Sen. Hill. He is always grinding to make the most of every students experience at UNM outside of Senate. He works the hardest to get legislation passed and to make the student experience at UNM.

n. Sen. Harris: Sen. Hill is always talking about Senate. We are both first years, but talking to him, I feel like he understands so much and has progressed so quickly. He outreaches all the time, he is networking all the time with people that we do not usually network with. Seeing him go above and beyond shows how much he cares for the students.

o. Sen. Hill: Thank you all so much for the nomination, but I would like to give my nomination to Sen. Regalado. He constantly works for the students. He is always offering hands to anyone. He is constantly working as hard as he can.

p. Sen. Regalado: Sen. Hotz has worked with me over the past year with legislation. She has been like a mentor for me for Senate. She definitely goes above and beyond. Sen. Hill always comes into the office with new ideas. He expressed his concerns with the Daily Lobo. Sen. Lutz has done a great job with the finance committee this semester and making those tough decisions.

b. Bill 9S - ASUNM Student Fee

i. MOTION to open Bill 9S

   1. MOTION is seconded and passed

   a. Sen. Regalado: Bill #9S is the bill passed at our last full Senate meeting, amending the Constitution to change the ASUNM Student Fee from a $20 prorated fee to a $25 flat rate fee. As you know, this bill was vetoed by President Biederwolf after being able to secure funds from UNM Administration through debt services. This bill had a majority of the students voting for it in the Presidential/VP
Election, but was about 50 votes shy of obtaining the super majority that is required to amend the Constitution. While I appreciate President Biederwolf’s effort to secure funds to ensure that the student body isn’t left “high and dry” next year, and the gesture of UNM administration to help us in our time of need, I personally feel that allowing UNM Administration to grant us funds continuously puts ASUNM in the position where we are under threat of this being taken away year after year. If we were given a one-time appropriation as we did last semester, it would be a little different as it would allow us to continue working on our fee increase while being supported by funds given to us by the UNM Administration. I feel like it’s quite worth it to continue our efforts to get our fee passed permanently. If enrollment decreases larger than expected (which is a possibility because of COVID-19), who's to say that UNM administration doesn’t need to take these funds to use for another purpose that is essential for another entity on campus to continue functioning. This is just one situation out of many which makes having these funds hanging over our head not the best idea. We currently have another election coming up, and another opportunity to allow us to pass the student fee increase as a student government. As you all know from reviewing the budget bill that we are going to be voting on next, the finance committee was forced to make hard decisions when funding each budget this semester, and given that we were so close in this last attempt, I don’t see why we shouldn’t do a little more outreach and try to get our fee increased permanently. I never want to be put in the situation where we are forced to furlough student jobs again due to a decrease in enrollment. We are here to make student life on campus fun for the entire student body, and we are the main source for big events on campus. The students and members of ASUNM have the right to decide how their money is used for ASUNM and I think that we should return this question back to the students. Again, I would like to thank you all for the hard work that was put in to getting this bill passed from last semester. I want to thank President Biederwolf for ensuring that the future administration isn’t left with a mess when they take office, and would like to thank UNM Administration for reaching out to assist us in our time of need. Thank you and I now yield the remainder of my time to co-author, Senator Hotz.
Sen. Hotz: Thank you Senator Regalado, Madame Chair. Senators, I would like you all to think about why you wanted to be a senator and what platforms you ran on. I want you to think about why you continued to pass this bill through senate, whether that be in committee or full senate, meeting after meeting. As students that have worked on this project, we have buy-in for whether or not this bill passes or fails. After our last meeting I know a lot of us were discouraged because it did not pass, but we were encouraged by our president and fellow senators to pass this bill so that students could at least vote for it again. Most of us decided that passing this bill again would be in the interest of the students and the future of ASUNM, and were willing to do that outreach. I agree with my co-author and would also like to thank President Biederwold in these efforts to give us another solution. However, if the argument is that we should not put this forward during a pandemic, I think we should also reconsider having a senate election in it’s entirety. I also agree that this could easily not be a long term solution for ASUNM. With so many unknowns, I worry that this is not the most dependable solution than something that is permanent and in our constitution that could potentially happen this semester. I know that I am not here and did not run for senate to provide bandaid fixes to the problems I see, but ran and am in this position to create long term solutions to help the student experience. What is most important in this decision is recognizing when or if we should be taking away a student’s ability to vote on this bill again. And our job is not to appease UNM faculty, but to be a voice for the students and advocate for them. Whether this be to inform them, mobilize them in this process, or get them involved, we are here for the students. If we decide to override this veto- It is important to ensure that our efforts are ones that are reaching out to the greater student body. If we want more student input, now is the time to reach out to our peers from every community on campus, to spread awareness and encourage students to vote in this senate election, either for or against this bill. If we choose not to pass this bill at this time, I encourage you all that still have a semester left as a senator to continue to fight for this bill and long term change. With that, I yield our time.

c. Questions:
d. none
e. Discussion:
Sen. Lopez: While I appreciate the hard work of the authors on this bill and the different scenarios that we have come across. Right now, students are hurting, the world is hurting. Asking the student body to give us more is beyond irresponsible. The money that we have received from admin is good. Asking for funding from students during this pandemic is not okay.

Sen. Rivera: I would like to voice the opinions of previous senators and that now is not the time to get this legislation on the ballot. The election is not in person. Now that we have this funding to rely on, this bill should be brought up in other meetings. Given the fact that we have this virus and other problems that we have to tackle.

Sen. Milan: If we have the opportunity to charge the students less money, we should do that and help the students the best we can.

Sen. Musa: I know that I had voted against the bill previously, but we can keep pushing this all that we want to, but this problem is always going to be around. The increase for over 80% of our students will be $5. The fee increase is already happening. I think it is good that Pres. Biederwolf was able to find another solution, but that isn’t permanent. We need to work to find a permanent solution. If this shouldn’t go on the ballot now, then we shouldn’t have the senate election. With the increase, it will fund students' jobs. This won the majority vote, it just didn’t get the ⅔ majority and if we stand together and educate the students, we can really give back to the students.

Sen. Flores: I think that this is something that is really important, but I do agree that in the place we are in now, we could not predict this. This is something I don't want swept under the rug and we need to keep this on the table, this is still important and something we will need in the future. I think that if we are to not pass it, we need to still be working on it, and can't just forget about it.

Sen. Jaffe: I don’t want to be repetitive. With this situation, we can realize that funding for ASUNM isn’t the most important thing out there, but the protection of life is. I don’t think that this should be passed due to the situation.

Sen. Zank: I think that this issue has been in the background since I joined, and this is something that ASUNM has been trying for nearly 15 years, but we always come up with a reason to postpone it. If the students don't want it, then they will say no again, and I won't be here next semester, but I would like to see this through. I also
don't think we should have a senate election, but I do think we need to do our part and find a permanent solution, not just keep putting bandaids on it, the issue will still be there under it.

m. Sen. Lutz: A lot of what I’m going to say is coming from the perspective of the finance chair. If we pass this, the students won’t be paying this until the Fall semester, not right now. We do not know how long this temporary fix will last. If we leave this now, we do not know that the future senators will have the drive to push this through. If we are worried about people not participating, then why are we having a spring election? I feel like we should do the hard work now so that we have a solution for the long term future.

n. Sen. Reglado: If the admin decides that we are short on money, they could cut us again. There is a possibility of that happening again. I think that we should put this in now, instead of relying on supplements. If we have the momentum, we should put this through now. With the election, we might as well have this on there.

o. Sen. Rivera: I feel that extending this debate to next semester and the following gives senators more time to prepare and gives people an argument as to why we need this increase. The more time we give senators the better, and this gives the senate more time to develop this argument and how much of a difference this will make. I think we should do it next semester because this semester it is more of a time crunch.

p. Sen. Lopez: So there has been a lot of terms being thrown around about this funding not being a permanent fix. This fee increase is also not a permanent fix. The next administration could come along and say that we need a $10 increase due to the enrollment being down. I don’t see this as a permanent fix.

q. Sen. Flores: I wanted to speak again and although many of us are on the fence, I think if this were to be on the ballot it would also show students that we care about it and the more we show it the more they will know about it. I feel like if we decide to pass it, it'll also give students a second look and I think it will be good, and will engage students in the issue so it doesn’t fall through the cracks.

r. Sen. Mondloch: I believe that placing this back on the ballot, they already voted this down. Putting this back on the ballot from them dealing with pandemic is an added
piece of stress that they do not need. If we put this off to the fall, we will be in a better place than where we are now.

s. Sen. Musa: I don't think that any of us expected this to happen and it is very new, but this pandemic shows that we never know what is going to happen, we see the issues our world is dealing with, and our job is to fulfill the student experience and allow student to feel community and normalcy. We have seen how urgent this issue is, and we might have to do a $10 increase and we might see changes, although the $25 might not be permanent it creates a precedent to allow students to have access to student orgs and what we do. For me, I see that orgs and agencies are holding meetings and that is still a community for students, so we should not keep pushing this away.

t. Sen. Molinar: I do support the fee increase and everything that you are saying, but I do not think that this is something that needs to be passed at the moment. I have only seen two campaigns so far, and this is not a pressing issue. I think we will be fine reopening this next semester.

u. Sen. Zank: MOVE to vote on Bill 9S
   i. MOTION is seconded and passed
      1. With a vote of 8-12-0-0, Bill 9S is failed

v. c. Spring 2020 Budget Bill
   i. MOTION to open the Spring 2020 Budget Bill
      1. MOTION is seconded and passed
         a. Sen. Lutz: Before I got started, we had $548,863 to give out with $781,984 requested. We were in budget hearings and deliberations for four whole days, two weekends. I would like to commend my senators for sticking it through and making $200,000 in cuts. Lobo Hockey has $0 because they couldn’t make it to their meetings, so they will be coming in the fall. We will also be dealing with the minimum wage increase. I would like to thank the senators who reached out to me with any questions that they have. I am very proud of this budget bill and see that it should be passed as is.

2. Questions
   a. None

3. Discussion
   a. Sen. Lopez: With this bill, obviously this is a huge portion of money. I know that the finance committee worked really hard on this with collaborating and getting everything done. With this funding that will be given to us, we will need to
work with the orgs to have them adjust to their new budgets.

b. Sen. Regalado: Initially I was against how the funds were allocated, however, given the situation and that our fee did not pass, I think it's important that the events were being funded and if we are not having events, there would be fewer opportunities. The finance committee did a great job for all the events were prioritized, we will have a lot of money for balance forwards so there is an opportunity for those positions to be added again.

c. Sen. Rivera: I feel that given the work that we have done as a finance committee, we have gone through as thoroughly as possible. We have gone through the special circumstances that the orgs have gone through. This budget recommendation should be passed in full, we were responsible with our cuts. This is the best that we could have done

d. Sen. Flores: I want to thank everyone who came to us with questions and concerns, it is nice to talk to other senators who are concerned with what we are doing!

e. MOTION to vote on the Spring 2020 Budget Bill
   i. MOTION is seconded and passed
      1. With a vote of 20-0-0 the Spring 2020 Budget Bill is passed

4. Closing
   a. ASUNM Closing Comments
      i. Sen. Zank: I want to voice a few concerns with holding a spring election. Having run a senate campaign myself, the importance of talking to student orgs and students in general takes away the important part of the election. Also students are facing many hardships right now, so asking students to vote and determine who they want to vote for is unfair, especially those who do not have many followers on social media. I don't know how we can level the playing field when it is all online and we have so many other things going on. I think we should wait and take the time to make this a fair election. I think the election should be postponed to the fall. The entire world is trying to adjust so I think we should hold off for now.
      ii. Sen. Rivera: I feel that this will be an interesting thing to see, the online campaignings. And how campaigning process will be virtually impossible. I hope that everyone stays safe this April.
      iii. Sen. Regalado: Thank you everyone for making this happen, this meeting was crazy but I am happy to see you all. First, I did send an email out on Sunday which explains what ASUNM should do in the case of an emergency, so please look at that. Also, with the election, I am not in favor of holding the election, if this was my campaign, I probably would not win. We are in an unprecedented situation and we don't know what to
do, but we do have a situation in our constitution where the Vice President could appoint people. If you have feedback on the bill please reach out.

iv. Sen. Flores: I just want to reiterate since we didn’t pass Bill 9S, if you are a senator that will be here next semester, please continue to push for these things. This is necessary. I hope everyone is staying healthy and staying safe.

v. Sen. Jaffe: I agree that this ostracizes students who are running, especially those who do not use social media. That is not how I ran my campaign. However, what else are we going to do, there is no better way to do it in my eyes. I think it is better to have senators who know others, a little bit of representation is better than none, I am trying to settle my distress about now having normal elections.

vi. Sen. Lopez: It was really nice seeing all of you. I am going to do my shameless plug, but I cannot do your taxes, but I can help you file them. The CFC will be having open Zoom hours. If you file your taxes, you can get that return and the stimulus. Again, if you have any questions, feel free to message me!

vii. Sen. Hill: First, if we do or do not have an election, that is not up to us. However, those senators who come into ASUNM on a digital election who know others are still thrown into a situation with the issues we are facing with limited knowledge and information. The best thing to do is postpone the election, it is too much for someone to be thrown in based on less than 50 votes.

viii. Sen. Musa: I think that going back to the election, we should review Sen. Regalado’s emergency precedent bill. Having an election would more so hurt the future of ASUNM instead of helping it. I personally ran as a first semester freshman, but if I ran now, I wouldn’t stand a chance. We are all college students, we are not professionals. Having connections is important, but we can’t really do that on Social Media. This sets up a future that we are uncertain of. We should discuss this with the EC and see what they want us to do as Senators.

ix. Sen. Regalado: I wanted to speak out of concern for Bill 9S, I think it is important we secure some funding, we cannot leave ASUNM in such a tight situation, so we should try to not accept only temporary fundings, and I would hate to have that hanging over our heads.

b. ASUNM President Pro-Tempore

i. Sen. Hotz: First of all, I wanted to address that I advocated for this meeting and I am happy that we used this opportunity to advocate that our voices should be heard when there is a veto. Since Bill 9S was failed, I hope that this continues to be pushed through. Senate packets are due Monday, however, if you feel that this election shouldn’t happen please contact your elections commission. We should be voicing our concerns. As far as outreach hours go, Vice President Lucas and I will be addressing that at the next meeting. If you can attend agency meetings virtually, I will still count those. Sen. Regalado and I still have a lot of bills that we want
to pass through so look out for those. Look out for the census and fill that out. Keep up the positive attitude and social distancing.

c. ASUNM Vice-President Closing
   i. Vice President Lucas: I am going to take action on most of these things unless I hear you are against it. As you know, you can't hold office hours anymore, but on the ASUNM website, we are going to add that if students want to talk to you, you can set up a zoom meeting with them via email. Tonight's meeting started out rough, however, we are going to try to do one more rotation of meetings. I know it is a hard time for everyone, just let me and Pro Temp or your Chair know ahead of time, if you are unable to make it. We are going to keep things as normal as possible. I understand concerns about elections, but for now it is still on, so please try to keep pushing students to run. Thank you everyone for being here tonight, I am really proud of you all. If you are looking for something to do or need someone to talk to, please reach out to me for anything.

d. Adjournment
   i. Vice President Lucas adjourns the April 1st, 2020 Full Senate Meeting at 8:06pm