



DRAFT MINUTES



ASUNM FULL SENATE AGENDA

October 26, 2022

6:00 PM

Kiva Classroom, Main Campus

1) Opening

- a. Call to Order at 6:03pm
- b. Land Acknowledgment
- c. Roll Call
 - i. 19 senators present
- d. Approval of this meeting's Agenda
 - i. Seconded and passed
- e. Approval of last meeting's Minutes
 - i. Seconded and passed

2) Preliminary Business

- a. Guest Speaker
 - i. Brian Colón – NM State Auditor: Thank you Madam Vice President. Give me a little grace in being informal, I'll be walking around the room. So, Madam Vice President, Senators, I think it's important I'm here today because a few of you I haven't had the privilege to meet. If I'm going to share some of my journey it's important to understand the lens, I look through. Our lens is our lived experience. It wasn't too long ago that I was sitting in these seats. I grew up in rural New Mexico in Valencia County. And those of you that are from New Mexico know we grow up in poverty, the government put a roof over my head. My father had a disease called muscular dystrophy, he when I was a teenager and from then on, I didn't have a blood relative in New Mexico. It was his dream for me to go to college, the community would fill the gap for me. I went to New Mexico State and without relatives or a support system it was tough. So, if you hear about hopeless that was me. It took me 10 years to get my bachelor's degree, but I accomplished my father's dream of graduating from college. I wanted to go to law school and right now you are looking at a guy who achieved his dreams. I ran for President of the student body and lost, and Attorney General and lost. I learned and lost a lot. Those of you that are in the senate now, stay in the government as much as you can because you have previous knowledge that others don't have. The Student Regent is an amazing student and an excellent representative of this institution. In my phone is how great New Mexico is, I have the Student Regent in my phone and its crazy how life works in New Mexico. If you have a problem, I want you to call me or text me because my goal is to be of help to you. How does this all relate to you as ASUNM senators? If you're looking at the positive impact that will be in your life from now on, look across the aisle right now. My best friend was someone I convinced to run for GPSA with me. Some of my best donors came from past friends. What's important is to treat each other with dignity and respect even if you disagree. If you stay in New Mexico, your paths will cross again. The Student Regent's vote has the same value as the Regent. You can bring your story to your community. Every year I come to the Senate; I've been very blessed. I come here as your State Auditor with a lot of gratitude. My ability to be in front of you today is because of my past. I had the opportunity to go to



boy's state and meet the President of the United States, he said, "what do you want to do when you grow up?". I said, "be the first in my family to go to college, get a degree, and go to law school". Not only did I live my dream each chapter gets better and better. I married an amazing woman who's an educator and I have an amazing son who got a Presidential Scholarship and is now doing biomedical engineering. Know you are changing generations to come. Put the students that need you the most first, be their advocates. Provide that voice, build relationships, and flourish.

- ii. Sen. Romero-Salas: Thank you, it's been a while. I saw your name on the student union building. What is the history of that?
 1. Brian Colon: I am the only person, New Mexican, who could be an advocate for NMSU and UNM for remodels of their student union building. I worked on the remodel; you can thank me and the folks that worked with me.
- iii. Sen. Pereira: Thank you for coming to speak, I was impressed with the journey you took. That takes grit and determination. For people pursuing the same path it can look super intimidating. Do you have any advice or recommendations?
 1. Brian Colon: I would say what you can do now, think about what makes you inspired. Providing all New Mexicans with food security? Find your passion and then lean in hard. Reach out to people like me and tell me your passions. Tell me, "This is what I'm passionate about" and very quickly people in the community will notice who is doing the work, who is trying to advocate for them. Find your passion points and then call someone like me who is open to you always and I can talk about those passions you have with you. It's ok to run and lose, but make sure to get back up. My office has done great government accountability.
- iv. Sen. Carrillo: thank you Vice President and thank you for coming to speak to us today. I've heard your speech before and it's always changing and interesting. Your background and life story resonated with me so thank you for sharing that. Your law career was interesting; what law did you go into?
 1. Brian Colon: The lens we look through plays a big part in every decision we make. I went to a political rally in Valencia County and Belen and this guy gave a great speech and it inspired me that my current trials did not have to dictate my future. I asked what the speaker did, and they were a judge and Speaker of the House, they said they were lawyers and I said, "that's what I want to do". My area of practice I did a DA's clinic, I loved prosecuting and being in the courtroom I loved it. I thought after I graduated, I would go straight to the district attorney's office. Before I graduated, I got a phone call, and the man on the other end of the line said "You have been mentoring my son and I see how passionate you are, and I'd love for you to come work in my firm." I said I need time to think about it and he said, "No you don't need time." So, I had 48 hours to think about it and I learned that he was one of the best plaintiff lawyers in the state. So, the next day I called him and said, "I would be honored to work in your firm." I did medical malpractice and personal injury with him.
- v. Sen. Chessman: Thank you Vice President for coming to speak to us today. I really appreciated you sharing your life and it was great for me to learn about that.

1. Brian Colon: Nothing in my life was more enriching than to live the life you had dreamed of. The board and their sole job are to make decisions in the best interest of the institution. We are more valuable than any board on the planet, you must have a few people around you that will reach out to you and let you know they are there for you and point you in the right direction. When you fail deeply it is dark, and it is important for you to hear that. You may be struggling, tired, and you never know when you may have to pull someone else out of the darkness. You do not want to be the one to wish you had done something. Surrounding myself with good people that I trust, my wife and friends have been the best for me no matter how hard it is. They pushed me to do my best, go to class, and be the best I can be.
- vi. Sen. Wyatt: Thank you Vice President and thank you for your speech, I appreciate the part about serving marginalized students. What do you believe are the big issues marginalized students face?
 1. Brian Colon: That's a tough question. Access is the biggest thing you can bring to the table, especially in education. It's not just admission or financial aid, it's being put in a situation where you are set up for success. If these students don't see students succeeding, they can't see themselves do that. Does our admin look like our students? Do the folks that are in the front of the classroom look like the students in the seats? It's important to talk about access to institutions of higher learning and that can be at any higher education school. Whether you are a flagship institution or research, we must make sure those places are embracing the young people of New Mexico.
- vii. Sen. Villegas: I want to thank you, hearing the beginning of your story was very influential to me because I came from a similar situation to you. My friend was shot and killed and that is an everyday thing in New Mexico. And we talked about how we must care for the students who don't have opportunities. How do you make them feel that these institutions are for the people that are struggling? For those that don't have a bed, food?
 1. Brian Colon: Thank you for being so vulnerable and that's an extremely important question to ask. This is very personal to you, and I thank you for sharing that with me. I think it's come upon us to get in these places and positions of not power but capacity. Power pushes away but I have this capacity to help others. Have the capacity to show up and be there for them, show support. You must hold people accountable; you must show up so people can see you and they need you to help. It's about accountability for people who occupy these positions of power. Communities of color, LGBTQ, those that are living in poverty are those that need our support. We need to tell their stories.
- viii. Sen. Sanchez: Thank you for coming to speak. I resonate with your story, I'm a first gen and every day I remember the stories from where I grew up and the challenges we face and I want to be someone who fails and gets through it. What's the biggest challenge you were able to overcome?
 1. Brian Colon: Keep failing more and learn from it. I am a sensitive person and as a result I was engaged to be married twice and the reason I mention that is because I met my wife and she was the north star and because she was by my side, facing challenges was not as hard because



she was with me. Every day I get up is a day my dad did not get to live. It's gratitude and my father died not having a relative and being by myself, taking that long 10-year degree journey, and loneliness, and homelessness was the biggest challenge and that will never be lost on me. Having the success, I do now seem like it was a long time ago and I'm grateful that I was able to overcome that and not go through it alone. You will need support at some point to help you succeed.

2. Vice President Pacheco: thank you for sharing your experience and life and time with us tonight.
- ix. Student Regent Randy Ko: What can I say? I can't really follow that speech. I was born and raised here in Albuquerque, New Mexico and I went to Albuquerque High School. My family are first gens from Hong Kong, most of my family lives in California. Coming into UNM I was painfully shy. I was lucky enough to find people on campus that believed in me, there were still slates running for Senate. I ran for Senate, and it changed my life, and I wouldn't be here without that. I started the first year, and I was on the finance committee and the student fee review board. We talked about renovating various buildings. Being from a STEM background those things were able to happen. How to enact change that lasts beyond your leadership. If it weren't for that experience, I wouldn't have learned to advocate for others or myself. My parents really didn't go to college so the fact that I can go from that to potentially 4 degrees is amazing, and I want others to be able to have that experience. Through undergrad I was going through a tough time with family, food, and housing insecurity, and I couldn't watch my family go through hardship, so I did it all. I stayed up and worked and I'm happy to see the vision come to life. When I was in undergrad, I ran for Student Body President and lost by 21 votes, I was grateful though because if you learn through failure, you can get so much out of that experience. In addition to that I applied to Student Regent when I lost the race and the previous student regent reached out to me and told me to keep trying. So, without that I would not be here either, everything is very linked. The overview of the position is appointed by the Governor and the ASUNM President and Senators and then you are interviewed by the UNM President. What we are here to do is fiduciary responsibility. What is best for the institution and leave this place better than it was and see it flourish. The board of regents really provides strategic direction to the President. I have been advocating for mental health lately and when faculty is stressed it affects the experience for students as well. I didn't know the value of mental health until medical school. The first 2 years of medical school were hard, I highly encourage medical school, but it felt like taking a final exam every week. We have great student support here for free counselors and people to talk to. And If I didn't have that experience, I may not even be in medical school. Now we are focused on how you get a student from enrollment to graduation. How do we integrate them into our workforce and value higher education? Let's bring new ideas to the institution and push the boundaries so it continues to stay relevant. Those are just some brief comments, but I would love to answer some questions.
- x. Sen. Carrillo: Thank you for speaking to us tonight, we are looking for a new student regent what do you want to leave behind?
1. Randy Ko: The most important thing is the conversations that I've had among the board and Government. I hope I made an impact on what we need to be doing to get students to graduation. I was in ASUNM senate



and working jobs and how can you protect that time for students and help them focus on their studies. How do we integrate things that really work for people, and to help those students achieve success? I hope those conversations lead to everlasting success.

- xii. Sen. Romero-Salas: Thank you for attending this evening, how does it feel when you're talking to the regents because I'd imagine it could be intimidating. How do you try to have those conversations?
 1. Randy Ko: That's a great question, it's the experience you're building towards and the fact that you're all human. You realize very soon that you're a board that cannot act alone. You need the majority to work together on each action. You must work together and engage in dialogue. And I'm thankful for these experiences to advocated early on in ASUNM and gain that experience and perspective. The board looks at the student regent as a fellow colleague knowing their vote matters as well. It's important to learn and understand more about each other. I've had the opportunity to hear that my voice is just as important as other voices at the table. Even though I may be the only one of my age I need to speak up or else I'm doing a great disservice.
- xiii. Sen. Pereira: Thank you for coming to speak to us today, I'm a physics major and getting the new building was great. Relating to campus and their discrepancies and the focus on certain buildings and focuses, what are your thoughts to assure that every student regardless of major or background has access to these high-end institutions?
 1. Randy Ko: I really appreciate the question and it takes very thoughtful planning. It's important that leaders don't stay in their office, they need to go out and meet people, what doesn't engage students is giving a speech of what you're going to do. Show it and engage with faculty, students, etc. I've been standing up for Chicana studies and the research center. We need to be listening to them and hearing these things and engaging in dialogue. Recognizing there is more work to be done and focusing on that.
- xiv. Sen. Villegas: Thank you. I wanted to say I appreciate you coming. My question is how do we as a senator work with the student regent on initiatives?
 1. Randy Ko: Thank you, I encourage everybody to reach out at any time. Email me and I answer every email and being a unified front on many initiatives. I've seen those benefits of working together and the unification of student leaders, trying to implement that to achieve change. I had never heard a student regent come speak to the students and I think I can enrich my schedule to come to your activities and office hours and have conversations about problems we want to challenge. I'm willing to engage in any dialogue to discuss these problems.
 2. Sen. Chessman: Thank you I wanted to say its inspiring to hear about medical school, I'm on the same path, how would you navigate med school and student regent?
 - a. Randy Ko: Diversity in the student senate is so important so thank you for sharing that you're studying that too. One of my habits is listening to podcasts in the car, always trying to learn something new. Regarding that, I think continuing to build habits and being easier on yourself. Plan and protect my time. I started getting up



early and going to bed early to have peaceful moments to spend with myself and focus. We aren't made to multitask and it's important to take time for ourselves and focus on a particular task. You are more likely to finish that task quicker. When you set that committed and valuable time to work on things for yourself. Completing tasks efficiently and things that are important. Needing to take care of myself or else I can't help other people.

b. Public Comment

- i. Giovanni Cordova: We submitted an appropriation this semester concerning a conference. The conference was cancelled so we wanted to arrange funds to go to a competition. We want to invest in mechanical engineering students and help them access industry tools they would see in the workplace. Giving them real life experience. Give that opportunity to our members. We want to send our students to this conference, so they get that unique experience. Invite them to the club that can give them critiques.
- ii. Tansky: Small club right now and hoping to grow. We are really asking for back shots and balls because those are necessities. We need this to make sure there is safety during practice. We need the balls for practices, games, and we want to make sure we have enough to keep the club running. We would appreciate getting that and hopefully getting things for the future to help us become a more serious club and get off the ground.
- iii. Sean Rictor: As far as appropriations are concerned, we have not received funding so far and we are trying to make travel happen. I hope what was settled last week can be confirmed today. We just recently made regionals in Texas, and I would really hope that we could get the funds for that. This is the first-time men's soccer is going to regionals in 3 years. We have a lot of talent, and these players can't afford to go play somewhere else. The more we can be funded the less we have to take away from these players. I also wanted to request the recreational service funds.
- iv. Sen. Romero-Salas moves for a 6-minute recess till 7:35pm
 1. Seconded and passed
- v. Chair calls meeting back to order at 6:36pm

c. ASUNM President's Report

- i. President May: I would encourage you all to speak on behalf of student orgs. The fright fest is on Friday. If you have any questions just let me know. Elections and lobo spirit had an awesome homecoming. Tell your friends to vote for senators. We learned today how impactful these positions can be. We had 70 people show up to discuss on behalf of their resource centers. Deliberations begin. We would love to have you all there and if you want to sit on the student fee review board in the future I recommend coming. Spoke about general fund after all the processes we have money to give out money to student orgs that are asking for important things, be equitable and we are in a good place at this moment. Guest speakers are great people and it is important to listen to those people and surround yourself with good individuals.
 1. Sen. Reynoso: can you send out an email about the review board?
 - a. Ian May: I would be more than happy to but also, we will be having a zoom call talking about it all.



- d. ASUNM Vice President's Opening Remark
 - i. Vice President Pacheco: Speak up if you are engaging in discussion. Collaboration with lobo food pantry. We have a diversity training at that time. More information will be sent out if you are interested let me know. Still doing senate stars, please fill out a form if you are going above and beyond. Keep filling out outreach hours forms.
 - e. Joint Council
 - i. Director Bell: Yesterday was our first joint council meeting. Most members were there. Went over structure and overview of joint council. We went over ASUNM business, believed it was received ok, and they did look a little confused but hopefully they will continue to gain experience. Discussing the future direction of the joint council, I would love to have you all there. Hear student feedback. It gives you an idea of what joint council is about and it's important for you all to hear about that.
 - f. Boards & Committees Report
 - i. Director McSaveny: I wanted to say thank you for applying to boards positions. I don't have any individual boards reports currently.
 - g. ASUNM Senators
 - i. Sen. Angel: thank you Madam Vice President, celebration from 5 to 7, head over to that space and it would be a great way to show support
 - ii. Sen. Villegas: I wanted to highlight the costume party on the 31st and costumes. Halloween cupcake decorating. The glam club is having an event where they will take pictures of specimens. I will be sending an email.
 - iii. Sen. Alicia Torres: Having a volunteer meeting November 2nd 3pm painting rocks with positive messages.
 - iv. Sen. Martin: Arts and Crafts has their final night of Halloween pottery , you can buy little ghosts you should go it would be fun.
 - v. Sen. Carrillo: Lobo Respect is looking for volunteers with lobo food pantry. Feel free to reach out to me to ask any questions, they are looking for volunteers and I highly encourage.
 - vi. Sen. Pereira: Southwest film center, freight fest, they will put on horror film festivals from students. Encourage you all to go support.
 - vii. Sen. Chaparro: To add on to freight fest and that it is a costume contest, and they will have candy. It is a collaboration with southwest and arts and crafts studio. Go support.
 - viii. Sen. Villegas: Friday there is an annual block party. 5\$ donations, also huge community event at 2nd street art undergraduate. Meet new Mexicans and mental health interested in being involved in the community. I encourage you to attend.
 - h. Attorney General Law Book Edits
 - i. A.G. Zinsmeyer: Rewriting the law book, slow process, halfway through, I hope to knock it out this weekend, hopefully by committees. You have been doing an excellent job with parli pro and meetings. If you guys do need anything I'm always here for any questions.
- 3) Business
- a. Approval of Vice-Presidential Appointed Senator
 - i. Motion to open the approval of appointed senator Kareem Al Bayraqdar
 1. Seconded and passed
 2. Questions



- a. Sen. Chaparro: introduce yourself
 - i. Al Bayraqdar: I'm from Lebanon and have spent two months in New Mexico, crazy year moving meeting new people, throughout my childhood I was in lots of leadership programs. I think being here is a great fit for me.
- b. Sen. Alicia Torres: What do you hope to achieve?
 - i. Al Bayraqdar: Connect with students on campus and it's hard to meet with people easily, bring people together.
- c. Sen. Carrillo: Initiatives, can you elaborate on them?
 - i. Al Bayraqdar: Parking is a big initiative for me. I hear about the problems every day and I see the issue, so I want to address that. Projects on campus and addressing racial issues and I want to focus on inclusivity. We cannot keep avoiding them.
- d. Sen. Wyatt: What is your perspective as a first year student here?
 - i. Al Bayraqdar: I don't see any problems with the senate, I see people trying to put forth initiatives and help.
 - ii. Vote passes on the approval of Sen. Kareem Al Bayraqdar 19-0-0-0
 - iii. Motion to recess till 8:00pm
 1. Seconded and passed
 - iv. Chair calls meeting back to order at 8:03pm
 1. 19 senators present
- b. Finance Committee
- c. Sen. Carrillo: 6 appropriations: simple, straight forward, so a little rundown of general fund is around \$271,000 one thing I want to point out is that is the total that we have left to spend that's what we will have for this semester and 6 weeks beginning next semester. Take it into consideration. I want to make sure we do have money for funding.
- d. Sen. Pereira moves to block vote 22 through 27
 - i. Sen. Martin: Don't we have to go back and look at ASME?
 1. Sen. Carrillo: We can still do that in a block vote
 - ii. Seconded and passed
 - iii. Appropriation 22F: SAGES
 1. Sen. Martin: Wanted funding for a conference as well as funding for an event in the SUB. People from outside to come to the event need a rental fee. Food refreshments, VR headset cardboard goggles.
 2. Discussion
 - a. Sen. Carrillo: Point out clarity, conference they are going to is tonight. Look highly towards this being funded.
 - iv. Appropriation 23F: ASME
 1. Sen. Pereira: Mechanical engineering, three categories, conference cancelled, maker space items, third materials for competition. We put down those items in full and reduced conference fees per finance rules. With new knowledge of conference cancelled we can cut that and restore maker space to full value.
 2. Discussion



- a. Sen. Pereira makes a sweeping motion to reduce line items 1-3 to 0
 - i. Seconded and passed
- b. Sen. Pereira moves to increase line item 7 to original amount
 - i. Seconded and passed
- c. Sen. Gurule makes a sweeping motion to reinstate 5 and 6 to original value
 - i. Seconded and passed
- v. Appropriation 24F: Hindu YUVA
 1. Sen. Ramsell: Straight forward, requesting food and refreshments
 2. Questions
 - a. Sen. Sanchez: There was a note on going out of standing rules?
 - i. Sen. Carrillo: Typically, we are capped at 250 but previously events that have lots of people we wanted to fund them more for food. Voted to exit standing rules to fund in full and capacity to hold that many members.
- vi. Appropriation 25F: Lobo Hockey
 1. Sen. Alarcon: Requesting for traveling, straightforward
- vii. Appropriation 26F: Men's Soccer
 1. Sen. Carrillo: they are requesting lots of travel for regionals and conference fees, jerseys as well they need two sets of jerseys for regionals, they are requesting the travel for the trip to Texas, cuts were per standing rules, recommend passing as is. Also, rec services funding requested would have to be a separate appropriation.
- viii. Appropriation 27F: Men's Lacrosse
 1. Sen. Romero-Salas: Straight forward, new org, 750, funded materials such as balls and equipment to function as an org.
- ix. Appropriations pass 19-0-0-1
- e. Steering and Rules Committee
 - i. Sen. Chessman: Peter Kierst worked in the Political Science department. He is very high achieving and we wanted to recognize that.
 - ii. Commendation 1F: Dr. Peter Kierst
 1. Seconded and passed
 2. Sen. Sanchez: Dr. Kierst is the only political science department to have certain classes. Wish him well on what he does in the future, he helped on the legal team to legalize same sex marriage in New Mexico.
 3. Discussion
 - a. Sen. Sanchez moves to strike 'of' between 'students' and 'the'
 - i. Seconded and passed
 - b. Sen. Sanchez moves to add the word 'at' in between 'students' and 'the'
 - i. Seconded and passed
 - c. 19-0-0-1
- f. Outreach and Events Committee



- i. Sen. Paige Torres: Southwest film center this Friday, support them and the arts and crafts studio
- 4) Closing
- a. ASUNM Closing Comments
 - i. Sen. Martin: I mentioned this at an earlier meeting, please speak up I'm hard of hearing
 - ii. Sen. Moon: I've said this in previous meetings; next Thursday the African American students are holding a conference. Just a reminder that it is happening next week.
 - b. ASUNM President Pro-Tempore
 - i. Sen. Romero-Salas: The appointments bill is getting to the final stages, we made compromises, still some formalities that we are working through still don't know if it will be ready for committee next week. Biggest piece of legislation lately. If you have questions let me know. I sent it out to everyone to read. We have taken in a lot of critiques, and this should be the best version we can produce right now. I hope everyone has a great week.
 - c. ASUNM Vice President Closing
 - i. Krysta Pacheco: When I ask you to speak up, please do it I'm graciously asking, do outreach hours and reach out to President Pro-Tempore and myself. If you have any questions just reach out if you would like any insight.
 - d. Adjournment
 - i. Chair adjourns meeting at 8:23pm