



# DRAFT MINUTES

ASUNM FULL SENATE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 27, 2023

6:00 PM



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September 27, 2023

6:00 PM

Lobo A&B, Student Union Building

### 1) Opening

#### a. Call to Order

- i. Chair calls meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

#### b. Land Acknowledgment

- i. Vice President Chessman: Founded in 1889, the University of New Mexico sits on the traditional homelands of the Pueblo of Sandia. The original peoples of New Mexico – Pueblo, Navajo, and Apache – since time immemorial, have deep connections to the land and have made significant contributions to the broader community statewide. We honor the land itself and those who remain stewards of this land throughout the generations and also acknowledge our committed relationship to Indigenous peoples. We gratefully recognize our history.

#### c. Roll Call

- i. 20 senators present, 0 senators absent

#### d. Approval of Agenda

- i. Motion to approve this meeting's agenda.
  - 1. Seconded and passed.

#### e. Approval of Minutes

- i. Motion to approve last meeting's minutes.
  - 1. Discussion
    - a. Motion to strike 'Barragan' from line h in the President Pro Tempore election.
      - i. Seconded and passed.
    - b. Motion to add 'Barba' to section h in of the President Pro Tempore election.
      - i. Seconded and passed.
  - 2. Seconded and passed.



## 2) Preliminary Business

### a. Guest Speaker - Integrated Campus Plan Team, Rosie Dudley & Tyler Patrick

- i. Rosie Dudley: We have been going on this project for the last year. We appreciate having us back. This has been going on for about a year, we also have gathered ideas. It is kept to get your ideas tonight since we have 3 months to wrap this up. We have met over 50 stakeholders. We have had two online surveys. I will go over the results as well. We have had some open houses as well to get feedback as well. If people have burning input, send them to see us tomorrow. People were able to weigh in on welcoming safe environments and the heart of campus. People were also able to give feedback on converse locations that were not welcoming or felt less safe. The recommendations for those locations will be the primary focus of this integrated plan. This is a plan that sets the horizon for the next 20 years. There is a safety plan to help increase safety and improve security in the North campus and main campus by the dorms to help reduce crime.
- ii. Tyler Patrick: We want to create more sustainability, and create a welcoming environment. The integrated plan is to create one university to support one vision. There is lots of information on our website. ICP recommendations: How do we create more community through even the most spread out parts of the campus? We are thinking about how to promote safe streets and accessibility and mobility networks. People want to talk about parking but we want to talk about motility in all forms of transportation. When a need arises we are talking about where buildings work with open spaces. This will allow us to speak with stakeholders and make informed decisions. How does open space help the movement of people? How can we make Redondo more pedestrian-friendly? We are thinking about where the shuttle stops should be and the reliability of the shuttle times. We are thinking about how to make it safer to cross roads such as Lomas and Central. If you come tomorrow we have some renderings of how the campus can look soon. Tomorrow we will be in La Posada and with an open heart.
- iii. Questions
  1. Senator Moore: How do your plans come to reality in regard to funding?



2. Rosie Dudley: We will identify priorities and then in January request funding from the state for the priority selected by the community.
3. Senator Gurule: I was wondering if there are any plans for food in far areas of campus such as the engineering center?
4. Tyler Patrick: You clued in on one of the areas that people said that feels desolate. It was really nice to see all the people enjoying the food trucks but that shows that people want more options. So yes, food is going to be an area of focus.
5. Senator Schultz: In previous discussions there has been discussions about limiting access points to the campus. Can you speak about that?
6. Tyler Patrick: We can focus on areas where we can limit and create edge conditions to have more funneled access to campus.
7. Rosie Dudley: We have talked about reducing access to Redondo, and potentially limiting access to parking lots with Lobo card access. This change will allow for safety. We want to reduce the number of personal vehicles moving into the core.
8. Senator Achusim: What projects have already been funded
9. Rosie Dudley: The welcome center is already in the works and will be open in the spring. The center for arts and technology will break ground in the spring,
10. Senator Achusim: Can you speak about how you are going to maintain continuity of how the building will look, like keeping it adobe?
11. Rosie Dudley:
12. Tyler Patrick:
13. Senator Angel: How will the movements of communities be planned for entities?
14. Rosie Dudley: The ICP does not investigate each community, but we are recommending the consolidation of communities and entities. We work with the provost to decide the best placement of communities.
15. Senator Angel:
16. Rosie Dudley:



17. Senator Casaus: I know that there have been comments on food already. However, UNM sits in a desert of grocery stores. Are there any plans to make getting to the grocery store easier?
18. Tyler Patrick: We noticed that the bus passes right by the Smiths, so we are talking about adding a stop at the Smiths.
19. Senator Lucero: What are the safety plans?
20. Rosie Dudley:
21. Senator Tomaziefski: Are the plans to deal with bottlenecks, and
22. Rosie Dudley and Tyler Patrick:
23. Senator Tomaziefski:
24. Tyler Patrick: Keep things flexible so that
25. Senator
26. Tyler Patrick: this is a long-term plan to support development, as well as preservation of the existing assets. And where growth can happen. This is a long-term plan focused on preserving what we have. There is a lot of room for improvement.
27. Senator Grado: I know that you wanted to do accessibility, I wanted to talk about the K and ELKS lot. Are there plans to improve the transit station there?
28. Tyler Patrick:
29. Rosie Dudley:
30. Senator Rutherford:
31. Tyler Patrick:

b. Public Comment

- i. Heidi Garcia: Hi I'm the Executive Director of the Elections Commission I'm here to support bill number nine and it will be updating the law and constitution to combine senatorial and vice presidential elections. I think this is very beneficial for the entire student body. I got some numbers to demonstrate this as well. So I first want to begin by saying that these numbers can be found on the election site. And I want to look into that further. But to begin with, I brought with us certain data. So in the spring of 2015, we had combined elections and we had a turnout of 1528 people. In the spring of 2016, it was still a combined turnout of 1525 people. And then in the spring of 2017, we actually separated the elections into vice presidential elections and senatorial elections, and in the last presidential elections we had a turnout of 2460 people, and in



the Senate elections, we had 1,500 voters. Now I want to make light of something more recent. So I brought spring 2023 for senatorial elections, we had 162 votes, and for the presidential election, we had 476 votes. So what this demonstrates is that presidential elections have had to turn out more than senatorial elections. I think listening to the student body is very important and making it easier for them to vote, to speak, and to vote for Senators and presidents and vice presidents it's really important for ASUNM. And something that the Elections Commission is going to do to have more voter turnout is advertise more our elections. And if we combine the elections, we will be more efficient and more effective with one election.

- ii. Teresa Parraz: I am the Assistant Director of Governmental Affairs. I came to discuss some of our current top capital outlay ideas for those that are So our top ones right now are lighting for the Cornell Hall area, enhancing properties next to Sigma Chi, and becoming more welcoming due to deciding on a future voting center. So there are families and people going there to the area surrounding the content as well as enhancing the area next to Popejoy. This would be to create a lounge-like area next to Popejoy Hall to provide students with an area to hang out on campus later in the evening. And then if anyone does have things that are interested in for capital outlay, during open remarks, you can go ahead and share them with me. And of course, you can email Governmental Affairs or me personally to offer any potential ideas for capital outlay, nothing is currently solidified.
- c. ASUNM President's Report
  - i. President Pacheco: I don't have anything tonight. I am so proud of the conversation and engagement with the presenters. I am so proud of the agencies, and all the success that they have had. For new hires, we have a couple. Senatorial elections are open now, and I encourage you to all run if you are interested.
- d. ASUNM Vice President's Opening Remarks
  - i. Vice President Chessman: Everyone met their outreach hour for quarter one and everyone got their hours. The next deadline is Friday, October 13th at 5:00 PM. If you do not complete these hours and do not communicate a valid excuse, you will receive a demerit. As a reminder, volunteering at Silent Lights counts as ASUNM Event Hours, not



Outreach Hours. If you submit Silent Lights as an Outreach Hour, it will be counted towards ASUNM Hours instead. The deadline for the Emergency & Jenny Marie Ames Scholarships was this Monday, September 25th at 5:00 PM and we received an outstanding number of applications. Thank you to everyone who helped spread the word about this wonderful opportunity for ASUNM to support and serve our fellow students. Earlier this week, I sent out the finalized list of Guest Speakers for the rest of the semester. We will be welcoming Mayor Tim Keller of the City of Albuquerque at our next Full Senate meeting, so please come prepared with questions for our speaker. Additionally, There are quite a few Senators who are not checking the Telegram group. I know this because there are some of you who it shows not being active on Telegram at all since August. You need to be checking this as Telegram is where I will be sending out important updates that you need to be aware of, especially those coming with short notice. Chair Moore will talk about this later, but all Senators are required to support the Outreach & Events Committee through their Tabling Tuesdays at least once this semester, the only exception being if you have class or another prior commitment. If this is the case, please communicate with me so we may excuse you from Tabling Tuesdays. Finally, going to Joint Council counts as Outreach Hours. The next meeting will be October 9th at 6:00 PM in Santa Ana A/B. While this is not required for Senators, I highly recommend attending at least once so you are able to see the phenomenal work that our DDEI and the council representatives are doing this year.

e. Senator Accountability

i. Demerits

1. Vice President Chessman: I am required to provide a report of all demerits issued since our last Full Senate meeting. There was one demit issued, which was to Senator Ángel.

f. Joint Council

- i. Director of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Castaneda: Joint council was another success as we added some new representatives, we now have 20 total representatives. During the representa:ves reports a couple of concerns were brought up: Nick Hogan from the College of Fine Arts said Parts of the CFA building lack internet access and will need a wireless point, but are having an issue with IT, the cost for installment for

an extension port is \$6,125.55. They believe this is a bit absurd. He had a talk with a department chair and was told at one point they had funding at around \$32,000 which has now disappeared. He would like to know why this is. Additionally, he expressed concerns based on the buildings: Carlisle gym has an outdated HVAC system, and it can get warm and does not feel it is fair and safe for the dancers to work in this type of environment. The building behind Rodey Theatre has a classroom with no elevator access, so this is now inaccessible and can create an inconvenience for students with a disability. Joey from Recreational Services explained that there is a student who is visually impaired that visits Johnson Gym very consistently. The student has questions on how to access a personal guide or how to use the equipment information. They had sent her to ARC: she was told that they could only offer classes on how to use the machine and they could provide her with braille stickers but if they are lost or damaged, they are not responsible and will not replace them. Recreational Services asking if there is a way to fund for brail to have in stock at Johnson Center so we can more properly advocate for the student and future students. Kaeden Yazzie From the College of Nursing discussed that they are having issues with accessibility students struggling with having to travel to the main campus to take an exam and then travel all the way back to the north campus for the rest of their day. Questions if would be possible to add ARC accessibility at the North campus. Anna Borders From Honors College did not approve Bill#7F for a minimum deposit, this coming from the concern that there can be possible cuts to students' organization funding to fulfill the minimum for deposit. Vice President Chessman stepped in to talk about how this situation would never arise and to alleviate these concerns the creation of a clause can be made, and if would this help take away those concerns for the bill. Was agreed by Anna that it would help take away these concerns.

g. Boards & Committees Report

- i. Boards & Committees Coordinator Nelson: So all of our committees are filled which is very good except for the athletic Council. And we need 2 student representatives. So if any of that sounds interesting to you guys and you want to serve, we will meet it's hybrid in room 101 on zoom on Thursday, October 5 at 345 and they will continue to meet the first





Thursday of the month. Other than that all humans have started for committees and there should be more coming through. October I didn't contact emailing to see which ones are hybrid which is all in person or on Zoom. So we had a report for KUNM they reviewed the draft for the board and they are starting to undergo research for the programming. The committee will work with the Institute for Social Research to help with this higher-student intern. The board also participated in a challenge grants to fundraise and they have had a goal to raise 1000 dollars. The board has already raised five. Reports for the sub-board they have their first meeting. They elected the sub-board president and vice president. They established future meeting dates and times and there was a presentation. Next, we have a diamond advisory committee. They met and discussed a possible new food service provider. So our student representative asked questions pertaining to sustainability student receptiveness and working conditions. The providers spoken to might be a viable option for the next food services provider but more possibilities need to be explored.

h. ASUNM Senators

- i. Senator Nguyen: I wanted to share some events that are happening with the Asian American Pacific Islander Resource Center. So one of them is the yoga piece of yoga for peace of mind and body. And this starts on Monday, from two to 3 pm. And they also have a legacy of colonialism reading group which is going to be reading *The God of Small Things*, which is on Fridays from 4 pm this started September 1. They also have a Hindi and Urdu language appreciation circle. They're going to meet on Thursdays from two to 3 pm Mesa Vista Hall room 3043 And they also have a presentation from Dr. David SEO which talks about Asian American dysphoric media studies which is going to be happening on Tuesday, October 10 from 3:30 to 4:30. And they have the happy mid autumn festival, which is a process and this starts on this Friday from six to 9 pm.
- ii. Senator Moore: I want to give an update on Emerging Lobo Leaders. Thank you to all who attended rotations. Mentors and Mentees have been assigned and will be revealed at the next meeting on Tuesday, October 3rd.



- iii. Senator Casaus: I wanted to talk to you about Lobo Spirit and Homecoming. The themes are tentatively decided, Monday is 60's, Tuesday is superheroes, Wednesday is Barbenheimer, Thursday is tacky Thursday and Friday is monochrome.
  - iv. Senator Montoya: Silent Lights would appreciate more volunteers to clean up from 11-12 after the dance.
  - v. Senator Lucero: Community experience has fall frenzy coming up please keep an eye out.
  - vi. Senator Grado: El Centro has multiple events this week.
  - i. Attorney General Law Book Edits
    - i. Attorney General Peacock: Please don't talk about the election at any ASUNM event, in any ASUNM office, or while doing anything even remotely tangential to ASUNM. One of the bills today is a constitutional amendment and requires a 2/3 majority to pass the Senate, then after that it gets added to the ballot, if it obtains a simple majority it will funnel to the board of regents. I am not expecting it to be controversial, but I just wanted to make sure that you all are aware of how it changes. Director of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Castaneda brought up great points that new senators could choose to write resolutions about. I encourage you to try and beat the Vice President's resolution from last year.
  - j. Motion to recess until 7:20 PM.
    - i. Seconded and passed
  - k. Chair calls meeting back to order at 7:25 PM.
    - i. 20 senators present; 0 absent
- 3) Business
- a. Finance Committee
    - i. Senator Schultz: for finance tonight we have roughly \$140,000 to carry us for the rest of this semester and the beginning of the next. The total for the 5 appropriations comes out to \$27,685. Of note, Every Nation Campus is a new student organization. One of the ways that you can influence your student orgs and help them gain funding
    - ii. [Fall 2023 Budget Bill](#)
      - 1. Motion to open Fall 2023 Budget bill
        - a. Seconded and passed.

2. Senator Schultz: So this is going to be the budget bill. So basically, if you guys don't know this super budget bill is this great budget, and then the fall budget for the budget is just a bit more, but we have a lot fewer requests for this. Our current recommendation comes out to \$24,808 but does include the surcharge for everyone so the numbers are a little bit off. Two I specifically want to point out is there were two groups that did miss the hearings that are going to make a Wish and social dance club. So both can get up to 70% of the funding of their last budget.
  3. The Fall of 2023 budget bill passes with a vote of 20-0-0-0 at a total of
- iii. [Appropriation #1F](#) - SLOPE
1. Motion to open Appropriation #1F
    - a. Seconded and passed.
  2. Senator Fetherman: This is for SLOPE dance group. Again, just like Chair Schultz said We have seen this appropriation before we just raised the first line item other professional services. They requested this money as a rental fee for the space that they're hosting for the space they're using to host their dance events, and we raised about 65% of their original requests to say
  3. Appropriation #1F passes with a vote of 20-0-0-0 at a total of
- iv. [Appropriation #2F](#) - Hindu YUVA
1. Motion to open Appropriation #2F
    - a. Seconded and passed.
  2. Senator Schultz: So this is going to be again this is one we've already seen. What we're doing here is increasing the funds that are going to be for the professional services for events, promotional airfare, or conference fees.
  3. Appropriation #2F passes with a vote of 20-0-0-0 at a total of
- v. [Appropriation #3F](#) - Magic The Gathering
1. Motion to open Appropriation #3F
    - a. Seconded and passed.
  2. Senator Schultz: So for this one, everything is by standing rules, but I also did give them the grace. They were late with the submission of budgets, and therefore could not be considered for

a budget this semester. So I did give them grace to be able to request more funds and add a few line items. There are a few line items on here that we didn't previously review at the last Full Senate. But everything should be adjusted.

3. Appropriation #3F passes with a vote of 20-0-0-0 at a total of
- vi. [Appropriation #10F](#) - American Nuclear Society
  1. Motion to open Appropriation #10F
    - a. Seconded and passed.
  2. Senator Grado: They requested funding to send their president and vice president to a conference. Everything is cut to standing rules.
  3. Appropriation #10F passes with a vote of 20-0-0-0 at a total of \$2,020
- vii. [Appropriation #11F](#) - Delta Sigma Pi
  1. Motion to open Appropriation #11F
    - a. Seconded and passed.
  2. Senator Fetherman: They are requesting funding to attend a business conference in Chicago, a formal event later this fall, and food for meetings. Everything was cut to standing rules.
  3. Appropriation #11F passes with a vote of 20-0-0-0 at a total of
- viii. [Appropriation #12F](#) - Alpha Omega
  1. Motion to open Appropriation #1F
    - a. Seconded and passed.
  2. Senator Angel: This is for Alpha Omega, which is requesting funding for travel, per diem and food.
  3. Questions
    - a. Senator Schmitz: Why was their conference fee not cut but other student organizations were?
    - b. Senator Schultz: They already cut it to standing rules.
  4. Appropriation #13F passes with a vote of 19-0-1-0 at a total of
- ix. [Appropriation #13F](#) - Every Nation Campus
  1. Motion to open Appropriation #13F
    - a. Seconded and passed.
  2. Senator Guttierrez: They are a new student organization, they were requesting funding for a conference in Orlando and per diem. Due to standing rules,



3. Appropriation #13F passes with a vote of 20-0-0-0 at a total of
- x. [Appropriation #14F](#) - American Institute of Chemical Engineers
  1. Motion to open Appropriation #1F
    - a. Seconded and passed.
  2. Senator Tomaziefski: The American institute for chemical engineers is requesting funding to send 11 members to orlando Florida to a conference. They are requesting food, airfare and per diem. Everything is cut to standing rules.
3. Appropriation #14F passes with a vote of 19-0-1-0 at a total of
- b. Steering and Rules Committee
  - i. Senator Schmitz: Welcome Guys. There are 5 bills tonight. I will let the authorship speech explain but we have to fail bill 11F because of a potential for OMA code violations. So just pay attention to that one. Bill 7F is for the Quasi endowment fund, 8F is for positions. Then for 9 and 10F one is a law book edit and the other is a constitutional amendment. So pay close attention to those and don't be afraid to have discussion.
  - ii. [Bill #7F](#) - Adds requirement for a minimum deposit of \$5,000 into ASUNM Quasi Endowment Fund at the end of every semester.
    1. Motion to open Bill #7F
      - a. Seconded and passed.
    2. Senator Achusim: So, it pretty much just guarantees that ASUNM will make a semesterly deposit to the endowment just to make sure it's growing, we'll just add money to the principal. Like our director of DEI said, there was a concern in the Joint Council about the amount. So just to air on the side of caution we are lowering the minimum amount from \$5000 to \$2500 however if you all would like to keep it at \$5000 then we can discuss that. I will be making a motion to change the structure of the bill, but other than that it will be just the same.
  3. Discussion
    - a. Motion to substitute Bill #7F with Floor Substitute for Bill #7F
      - i. Questions
        1. Senator Moore: Where can we find that?
        2. Vice President Chessman: It is on the board.

3. Senator Ángel: Will you please send that to us so we can look at it on our computers? I don't have my glasses.
4. Vice President Chessman: Yes, I will do that right now. Thank you for asking.
5. Senator Schmitz: Why did we change the number from \$5,000?
6. Senator Ahusim: \$5,000 was a little high and it was concerning some people so we just cut the number in half. It is a minimum so we can always choose to add more.
7. Senator Schultz Is there any reason for \$2,500, like did you talk to SGAO?
8. Senator Ahusim: We did not talk to anyone about the number specifically, we just cut it in half.
9. Vice President Chessman: Point of Order, we are currently discussing the motion to substitute Bill #7F with Floor Substitute for Bill #7F. Any questions regarding the dollar amount should be saved until we are discussing the bill itself.
10. Senator Gurule What is the reasoning to make adding to the principle mandatory?
11. Senator Ahusim: We can not touch the money until 2035, and since it is market-dependent, the requirement to add to the bill ensures that the principal grows every year.
12. Attorney General: Point of order please keep this bill to the merit of whether or not to substitute with floor bill#7.
13. Vice President Chessman: Point of Order, Floor Substitute for Bill #7F has the same content and purpose as the original Bill #7F, the structure was altered for clarity. All

questions regarding the content of this legislation should be saved until we are actually in the discussion of the bill itself.

ii. Discussion

1. Senator Achusim: What Vice President Chessaman said is accurate.

iii. Motion to substitute passes with a vote of 20-0-0-0

b. Questions

- i. Senator Moore: Is there a chance that let's say this bill is passed and the funding or the budget is shortened for that year? Would this be the lowest priority instead of funding student organizations?
- ii. Senator Schultz That would be a discussion mostly at the time, with SGAO. Just as information we typically like to keep reserved amounts on hand that shouldn't be touched and I really hope that it never comes to a point where we have to touch all of it. So I really would be surprised if we ever fully ran out of money. If there was a moment where we were like, we really didn't have any money for this then there could be discussions.
- iii. Senator Schultz: Who is responsibility to follow up on this bill every year
- iv. Senator Achusim It is the vice president and President.
- v. Senator Schmitz: Thank you Vice President Pacheco. Just to clarify it is \$2500 per semester and \$5000 per year?
- vi. Senator Achusim: Yes that is correct.

c. Floor substitute Bill #7F passed with a vote of 19-0-1-0.

iii. [Bill #8F](#) - Adds Council Clerk to Office of the Vice President

1. Motion to open Bill #8F

- a. Seconded and passed.

2. Senator Achusim: This looks to add another senate aid. So in O and E, the Vice Chair is taking minutes. This position was for another Senate aide so that they could also take minutes in O and



E and joint counsel. And since it's a more reduced role, it wouldn't be an hourly wage but instead a stipend. We'd be requesting funding for that later on if it passes.

3. Questions

- a. Senator Schmitz: Who is responsible for adding the duties to the law book?
- b. Vice President Chessman: As of right now the duties for senate aids are not outlined in the law book. It is up to the Vice President. Follow-up legislation to address this issue is a good idea.

4. Discussion

- a. Senator Moore: Thank you to the authors of this bill, as the chair having someone that can potentially take minutes so our vice chair can be focused on their duties of adding to the conversation would be really helpful. This will allow them to be fully present in the conversation because having those multiple tasks at one time can limit their creativity in the moment. I think it's a good idea.
- b. Senator Gurule: I'd also like to express my support for this bill. Number one council it would be nice to have another person I took notes so, I can focus on meeting in person student groups there
- c. Senator Ángel: I agree with previous senators.

5. Bill #8F passes with a vote of 20-0-0-0.

iv. [Bill #9F](#) - Updates Spring General Election in Law Book

1. Motion to open bill #9F
  - a. Seconded and passed.
2. President Pacheco: Before I go into my authorship speech, I just want to let you all know that Bill 9F and Bill 10F were submitted in tandem so for this to work both bills have to pass concurrently, so I would just like to kind of preface that. But yeah, so Bill Number Nine works to combine the spring senatorial elections with the presidential and vice presidential elections to be known as the spring general election. And so these are making edits to the ASUNM lawbook. And so this piece of legislation is reflecting these changes, but also you'll see that there's a revision to the





oath of office to reflect the current oath of office as an application packet because right now those aren't aligning. Then it also expands the members of the student court who are prohibited from running for office if they are in the adjudicating body. So just removing any conflict of interest there. But to really kind of just touch on the reasoning for why we submitted this piece of legislation. So working with executive director Garcia, we really saw the trends of voter turnout and kind of the impact that it has on the work that we are doing. And so we really wanted to go back to the drawing board and see how we can really improve that because we are working for the students. So both Bill and I have been working together to not only streamline the election process, but also to create a better engagement and a better representation of the student body. So we really work to kind of prove what we're doing with the election and previous pieces of legislation to bring back polling stations by putting in some more investment within elections. We'll be going through and I think also with the work that we've been doing, this allows for the election commission to really focus all of their work on to one general election. Also, Executive Director Garcia came to public comment, and as she mentioned, we've seen a trend of decreasing voter turnout since the separation of these elections, and looking back at the most recent presidential vice presidential election with the Senate election, 476 and 152 students voted respectively with those. And honestly, that is quite low. And so I think we really need to do a better job of making sure that we're representative of the entire student body by, you know, really making sure that we're engaging with them and we're really making them aware of what we're doing in this room. Also, as Executive Director Garcia mentioned, there's a lower rate of student or voter turnout in the Senate election than in the presidential or vice presidential election. So I think if we continue this trend, we're really underscoring the work of the Senate and underscoring the work that you are doing pretty consistently. And I think, as you all know, the Senate does make a really big impact on student life. So I think by continuing this trend of having lower



rates of voter turnout, the Senate elections, I think, is really underscoring all your work. So I think we really need to kind of take a step in the right direction, which is why this bill should pass, I think, allows us to be better representatives of students who aren't in the space who don't know what's going on, and so we can be a better voice for them. Because that's really the reason why we are all here and spending almost 10 hours a week on this stuff. And I think this is also an average. Some people spend more time but I think it's really important that we're really taking into consideration students. So I will stand for questions.

### 3. Questions

- a. Senator Barba: I noticed that was pretty small prospectively in categories. My question for you is like, Was this done in the past collectively together? And if so, like, how did that did that give more voter turnout
- b. President Pacheco: So if you look back on previous elections, I know Executive Director Garcia alluded to that her public comment, but we've seen close to 700 students voting for Senate elections in over 1500 Students voting for presidential vice presidential election and so that kind of been the trend for after general election. So when the senator elections I referred to was like the fall senatorial election and the second one was for the spring general election. So we have seen high rates of voter turnout, and I think progressively even pre-pandemic as the elections were separated, we have started seeing lower rates of voter turnout. So and you can go to the Elections website, so that was in the 2014- 2015 school year, and the 2016 Presidential and senatorial election over 1,500 students voted there. So I think we have seen higher rates when they were combined.
- c. Senator Gurule: So my question is on in the past, how have the Elections Commission and ASUNM informed students about the elections?
- d. President Pacheco: Yeah, so I think it's really been up to the election. Commission to do marketing. So previously,

we had polling stations. And so I think that also really contributed to voter turnout because they were present throughout different areas of campus. So not just in the sub and then several years ago, I believe it was 2021 they removed polling stations and then they just implemented election information stations within the sub. And I think that's kind of also where we saw lower rates of voter turnout and engagement with the election. So I think we don't really just want to rely on combining the elections to kind of cause students to be aware of the election and positive vote. We really want to do a number of things. We want to be active in those spaces, even outside of the election period to show students what ASUNM is doing. Because if you were doing so consistently, not just during senatorial elections in the fall but during the presidential elections and Senate elections in spring, so I think really making sure that we're being present on campus. I think two of the polling stations bringing those back, I think that's another step. in the right direction. Three, we really want to make sure that we have a full elections team. So right now, I believe the Elections Commission has six commissioners to really help with that. And then I think that's something we're really relying on is having those commissioners be active with marketing. O and E have already been talking about having a tabling event before the election, to make students aware that it's coming up. So I think it's a combination of other things, in addition to this piece of legislation that we're really working to do to inform students of what's going on and for students of the election and then also different engagements process so hopefully the voter turnout increases.

- e. Senator Ángel: Why the change to the student court, I know you alluded to it but can you explain it a little more?
- f. President Pacheco: Yeah, so pretty much if there is an elections code violation, it gets reviewed by the Elections

Commission, and then depending on that, that decision can also be appealed to student court. So the thing is, say if you have an Associate Justice that's running for election, and then they're part of the adjudicating body that creates a conflict of interest. So adding in this clarification kind of removes any conflict of interest from the student court which is supposed to be unbiased.

- g. Senator Montoya: What was the reason for splitting the vice presidential and presidential elections?
- h. President Pacheco: Yeah, so I can't completely speak to that because I wasn't enrolled at UNM at that time, but from talking with some people previously in ASUNM. The issue at that time was super slates. Or that was one of the things I got brought up pretty frequently. So for those of you who don't know, super slates were essentially presidential or vice presidential candidates campaigning with 10 other senatorial candidates, and so a concern there is that if you weren't part of the super slate, it was really hard to get elected into office. And also this could also be just like a very brief explanation and it does not have to be the whole explanation. That was frequently alluded to. And so I think right now kind of seeing the culture shift. We have a lot of senators who are campaigning by themselves to be elected. You've seen, slates of candidates around together, not all of them have gotten into office. So I think right now, we're at a point in ASUNM, where if we do have, you know, students that are all running together on one slate, there's no guarantee that all of them will get elected because the elections commission views every candidate individually, rather than as a slate. So I know that was a concern at that time. But there could be also some other needs as we would have to reflect on the previous legislation to determine that.
- i. Senator Schmitz: Do you think it's gonna be efficient to just have like, voting stations and polling stations just in

the SUB or do you think there needs to be more legislation to expand the number of locations?

- j. President Pacheco: So right now, the way the legislation is written is that there has to be a voting station in the SUB, but that doesn't limit us to the SUB. So what we're planning on doing is going through an appropriation to get some funding to help student organizations get some funding to help run polling stations, and we've planned to have them across campus. So in the past, we've had them in Mesa Vista Hall, at Johnson Center, near La Posada and Dane Smith Hall, in the engineering quad, and Mitchell hall as well as a room in the library. So if we were able to move forward with this legislation, or even without this legislation, we can really just improve voter turnout across the board. But we will be having additional polling stations outside of the sub.
- k. Senator Rutherford: You'd mentioned the aspect of a student's culture shifting and protecting from super slates but my question is, is there any form from like the elections commission, just based on your elections code or is there any writing to enforce to make sure that that shift continues because if it can shift, I feel that it could obviously shift in reverse and so just any form of protection from this?
- l. President Pacheco: So just to be clear, super slates weren't officially recognized by the elections commission. That's kind of like, right now you have senate slates that are officially recognized. It is just how students campaign so if you see a slate where it's like, well MyUNM, and just very much hypothetical, it's like well, number three, number five, number seven on the ballot. Whenever you go to vote, every candidate is recognized as a separate candidate, not as a slate. There would be no MyUNM on the ballot where you vote for all three candidates at one time. So that was never the case. So I think right now, I think how the Elections Commission is structured by we

still recognize the candidate separately, I think helps protect that. But I think it also gives students the flexibility to run with other like-minded students if they have very similar goals and very similar values. If they really wanted to continue that in ASUNM and so I think, you know, to be shouldn't limit how students are campaigning together, as long as the Elections Commission is still identify candidates as individuals rather than as a slate.

- m. Senator Rutherford: So follow up so there is no writing, enforcing like let's say that a president and vice president candidate can run with senators unofficially in slate like there's nothing in writing saying they can't.
- n. President Pacheco: Yeah, so right now in the elections committee everybody's recognized individually. So when you go to candidate training, you have to draw a number. So a presidential and vice presidential candidate may campaign together but is not guaranteed they will be on the ballot number or that they will get voted together. So that can split. So yeah, there's nothing written but I think we worked to add something in there I think that we could run into some issues. We're limiting free speech especially.
- o. Senator Casaus: On the topic of superstates is there any other tentative action that we could take to prove that, that sort of culture at some point if it came back what to do? So if they separated the elections for that reason we should do our due diligence to make sure that doesn't happen again.
- p. President Pacheco: Yeah, just to revisit a comment I previously mentioned we have had a history of Senate or senators running for election, and then not all the senators get elected. Also, I believe it was the year 2016-2017 election after that split, a presidential and vice presidential candidate ran with the senate superslate and the presidential and the vice presidential candidate split. So one presidential candidate from one side got elected and a vice presidential candidate from another slate got

elected and then likewise with those senators, not all of those senators got elected. So even in that case, when the elections were combined, we did see, you know, an instance where not everybody from that slate was elected. So that wasn't like the complete culture. And so I think that's something that we should also keep in mind that there's no guarantee that everybody that is campaigning together will all get elected. And I think that also gives some flexibility to students because if there is an unofficial slate that they really align with and they really like their values, then they have the option to vote for all of those candidates if they choose to but if there's some candidates that don't align with other candidates from another slate, then they have the flexibility to you know, vote for those other candidates because Elections Commission recognizes everybody as an individual rather than as a slate. So I don't think there was like a complete culture record to follow. But we have seen that the slates have not always worked even when the elections were combined

- q. Senator Achusim: Can a senator who is not running for an election be a poll worker?
- r. Vice President Chessman: Yes.

#### 4. Discussion

- a. Senator Gutierrez: I would vote yes for this bill and would encourage you all to vote yes as well. I think that the information that was brought by the Elections Commission shows the importance of combining elections at UNM. It makes it a more efficient process than UNM
- b. Senator Moore: I would like to voice my support for this bill, from a marketing perspective it is so much easier to market one event. I can not tell you how many times when marketing the senatorial elections people have asked what are senators at ASUNM. By putting these elections together it really allowed for us to market the whole democratic process and support the full election effort.

- c. Senator Rosenfeld: From an outside perspective it does make sense to make elections one event.
- d. Senator Schmitz: The data is coming from pretty old numbers. In general terms due to COVID and just like the amount of people who are involved on campus, I don't know if combining the elections is going to turn out more voters. So I'm just gonna voice my opinion. I don't think this is a great bill. There are good parts of it, but just due to the original intent of it was to separate them for a reason. So the elections were separated for a reason then why are we recombining them?
- e. Senator Gurule: So, a lot of the concerns of this bill seem to stem from the elections commission. So my belief is that actually the function and the attention of the bill is to increase voter turnout. I don't think that this is the way to approach it. I think that a lot of the turnout can be based on voting stations and actually funding the elections commission. So also having outreach around campus in areas such as like engineering corridors, Johnson, and spaces where students were more often frequent than the SUB could probably have more direct routes to increasing voter turnout than some of this bill, and as other speakers have said, their turnout decrease could have been due to COVID outbreak and a lack information stations and in-person voting.
- f. Senator Achusim: I have to agree with Senator Gurule here. Voter turnout more likely decreased due to the lack of in-person voting and the election moving online which made it harder to get out to people.
- g. Senator Barragan: I don't think that this bill is saying that it is the whole answer, but rather a part of the answer to increase voter turnout.
- h. Senator Montoya: Numbers are old and also it just could be due to COVID since everybody was still online. And now that we're just getting back into the classes. A lot of people have probably forgotten about elections and all



that sort of Thing. So really market the elections thing and getting the word out about these different elections is important. Also, I did talk to other students around campus about having different elections versus one election. And they did say that the big thing was just to do more outreach and use marketing so they know more about it. I did bring up polling stations and the students said that more than just in the SUB would be important. All this being said I did not bring it up, they brought it up to me that they were concerned about super slating.

- i. Senator Barba: I would like to agree with other senators. I am very wary of super slating even though it is not an official term and I also do think that the last bill that we had just passed allowing for the elections to be in person, we should give that option to increase voter turnout. So I think that we should see how this plays out first before we combine elections together. I do think that it is something that we will do in the future. But I do believe that maybe for this year as we have more people returning back to campus to see that.
- j. Senator Jaber: I agree with the previous senator's statements. From my experience, I think that there just needed to be more advertising about the election, not that the elections were at different times.
- k. Senator Rutherford: My personal perspective is very weary and iffy to feel that it was split for a reason and it was protection from superslates. I am using quotations because it was considered official but it's just the fact that it was done purposefully and with intent. And now if it's something that could jeopardize just the culture of ASUNM as a whole. We use separations of powers within our own US government and I think this is intruding on that aspect. I believe that we really have to have a body that represents more than smaller cohorts of students so that their voices are still representative, but for those who want to, as a majority vote for an individual care for the

moment to do that, and so that's how I believe we should keep installing those representative values.

- l. Vice President Chessman: Before I call on anyone else, I just want to provide a few points of information just so you have this context. So for the presidential election in the spring of 2022, the voter turnout was 817 people. This was coming out of COVID. I believe the year before when we were online, it was about the same as on the website. I don't have that information. And then additionally in 2023 were 476 just to address some of the comments that have been made about voter turnout during COVID. Fall 2022. The Senate was 425 and it dipped to below 200 in the spring. One additional point of information, the presidential and Senator and Representative elections for the actual US government are also combined.
- m. Senator Tomaziefski: Along with other senators concerns about super slates, although there's evidence that super slates have not been successful or other senators have been elected. I feel uncomfortable not protecting the interest of senators who are running alone with only one voice. As this issue is important to all students and all voices need to be represented. Moreover, I think I resonate with the other senator's concern that this was separated for a reason and that we should do our due diligence to find out more reasons why.
- n. Senator Fetherman: I think that the senators on both sides still have valid questions. In my personal opinion, the idea of super slates seems off-putting or it can be addressed with regulation and oversight that we owe students as their elected representatives. I don't think that this bill is the end all be-all of asunm elections and I think whichever way this bill goes it is important to remember that we have the power to enact legislation that will help protect the legitimacy of senatorial presidential and vice presidential elections. If the senators have concerns that are certainly

warranted, but failing the bill is not the only action that we can take.

- o. Senator Schultz: The one thing I just want to point out is, if we pass this bill, we can always reverse it. So if something doesn't go well, we're going to reverse it but it was in my personal opinion, I think times have changed, things are different., people are different including the communities at UNM. A lot has changed and college has changed. In a way we don't know whether superstates or anything like that might come back, I think those concerns arise later so that we can create different legislation.
- p. Senator Gurule: So first of all, my support to vote against this bill. One of the points is that if the elections are separate then if someone wants to run for the President or vice president and then lose then they will still have an opportunity to participate in the Senate election. The second point is as mentioned previously about the federal government having combined elections as it is very different from the federal government and that the whole of that whole election is organized. So one of the main things is that they have dedicated polling stations across the country which ASUNM doesn't have so far. So from that, I think I am in support of a future bill that provides lots of support for the elections commission. It's not only giving them the resources and the funding to have stations around campus where students are more likely to get informed of the election and then also giving them opportunities to vote in the election. And then lastly is just bringing up that this was a piece of legislation that had previously failed to pass at the last Senate. But just bear that in mind.
- q. Attorney General Peacock: There is nothing in the law book that prohibits anyone from running for both senate and vice president or president. People could run for both, and then if elected to both decide which one they wanted more.

- r. Senator Achusim: This is also just another opportunity for ASUNM to make themselves known on campus. Now it's really combining these two elections really just a matter of convenience. And it won't necessarily increase voter turnout, by the way, polling stations and also rapid service leads and all that I think it's just, I mean, for example, you know, when he was really stressing tabling this semester, and just as another sort of tabling opportunity, were just in your face and embrace ASUNM. Even on the way over there, I ran into a buddy. He said "You look nice today. Well what's going on?" It's like I have seven meetings. here and he's like, I had no idea you guys even in the past why we're here and that's why we do what we do. So I think this besides voter turnout should also be looked at as another opportunity to interact with the student body and make sure that our presence is known here.
- s. Senator Tomaziefski: I would like to disagree with the idea that we could do something about superslating. We have been having this echo chamber. Like President Pacheco said there is no guarantee that we can do legislation like that without violating freedom of speech. And that just sounds like is writing
- t. Senator Casaus: Perhaps we review this legislation after we set up polling and increase outreach. Maybe legislation for next year, maybe give us an opportunity to get support from our members and promote this election so it's more applicable to our current situation.
- u. Senator Gutierrez: I want to remind you all that when you're elected individually as a person, not as a slate on the ballot. So if you have any problems with that you're elected individually. So you're not voting for the entire slate to be voted into office. You and students are voting for individuals at that time.
- v. Senator Rutherford: Yes, there is no evidence saying that there split in the slate but there's if there's evidence of that there is also evidence that a full slate got on. And if

there was a full slate that was voted in but even then, like we talked about how the culture has shifted, and what is to say that the culture shifted because of the current legislation. And so by combining it, to bring about information that would suggest that we could reverse it all but the culture has shifted.

- w. Senator Nguyen: So when I was speaking to students about this, and the vice president election, combining them really less like views on the senators. We were going to be focusing on the Vice President, and like, the president in general for the elections. So even if we provide them, there's like, there's so many people that are gonna be running but it's gonna be super hard to remember each candidate that they would like, and like the feeling from personal interactions with students and my friends, like they only like, like, interviewing candidates at a time because it's really hard to like to vote all 10 senators and the vice president and president so I just don't think that this like Bill would really help with like, voter turnout because like if we do this, the majority of people are going to either vote for president or just Senator like they're not going to like be looking up all the entire election for that.
- x. Senator Schultz: So I want to create one more point. I think that there is a lot of emphasis in this discussion to like really nitty gritty, it is more important that we look at getting more overall. I think that's really what we need to do. Therefore, we need more people to be more representative on campus. We need campus to be more representative. A lot of people who vote are associated with ASUNM and that is just the way it is. But it's hard to get people to vote once. It's hard to get people to do it twice. Especially when things happen. It's easier if the elections are combined for the student. There's a lot more reach on campus you have 20 senators campaigning, plus president and vice president over many candidates there

are there's a lot more reach than if there's just like for president vice president, like maybe like marketing going on there can reach a lot of people but with the combination of like 30 candidates running all in one election, there could be a lot more attention of that one election. then there would be if we're trying to get two different elections. It's really hard to get people to vote. And It's really important. We get the student body vote from a really important group representative of people here on campus we get that we get like as many people as possible so I think as you guys are looking at this bill and looking at yourself, please think about the voter turnout, please think about how you want to get some representatives on campus. If you do intend on failing this bill I really encourage you to look at other options and other solutions this semester. I know that executive director elections have been really open to discussion about it. We look at those options, but I really want you guys to think about voter turnout more than the nitty gritty and that's what I've got.

- y. Senator Gurule: First off the Election Commission has two different elections in the fall. I don't think having two different elections in Spring will overwhelm them and that's kind of their similar amount of work and also it's all competitive.
- z. Motion to strike "and homecoming election" from Article 10 line 91.
  - i. Questions
    - 1. Senator Barba: Aren't we on Bill #9F and not #10F?
    - 2. Vice President Chessman: Yes.
  - ii. Seconded and passed.
- aa. Motion to strike a comma from Article 10 Line 91.
  - i. Seconded and passed.
- bb. Motion to add 'and' between Fall Election and Spring Election



- i. Seconded and passed.
  5. Bill #9F fails with a roll call vote 6-14-0-0.
- v. [Bill #10F](#) - Updates Spring General Election in Constitution
  1. Motion to open Bill #10F
    - a. Seconded and passed.
  2. President Pacheco: So as bill number 9f failed I encourage you to fail this bill as it was submitted in tandem. I mean, a lot of concerns were brought up, to evaluate the polling stations and kind of see how that impacts voter turnout. So I think what we can do is we can really just see how the next election goes. You can really see how that impacts our voter turnout. However, in exchange, I do expect you all to help with that. You all are having strong feelings that is the needed solution. So I think this is gonna be something that will advocate for like speaking with your actual back to by helping the elections commission with opportunity. So looking around without expected return. Also just to kind of bring to light. If you're voted into Senate in the fall 2020 semester, you're only representing 425 students out of almost 17,000 students. Likewise, if you're voted in the spring 2023 election, you're only representative of a little more than one hundred people. So I think as you start with your voter turnout, think of the students that you represent. And I think also if you're an appointed senator, how you are going to be representing students by not perceiving as much and I think that's a really important conversation, to have I think they're going to consider, I think also something that we consider is looking at our presidential vice presidential election, how many students were representing but then how we're working to make sure that we're representative of all students, knowing that not everybody participated in this election. But we have a complacent I just sitting here and just kind of 2017 is really irresponsible on behalf of the student body. So I just kind of wanted to denounce a lot of the things that would be done in this room. I really appreciate a lot of integrations are being made, but I think also at the same time. There's a lot of irresponsibility that has been done and I



think we really have to kind of check ourselves and do a better job with that.

3. Bill #10F fails with a vote of 0-20-0-0.

vi. [Bill #11F](#) - Changes timeline for Budget Processes

1. Motion to open Bill #11F.

a. Seconded and passed.

2. Senator Schultz: So this bill was originally written to change the budget process. I encourage you all to fail this bill. There is going to be further legislation that would work to clarify the date of the budget hearings for both the fall and spring semesters. As I bill currently sits it is not as productive as other legislation. There's a question period roll.

3. Bill #11F fails with a vote of 0-20-0-0.

c. Outreach and Events Committee

i. Senator Moore: Just please make sure you're listening to all these events. I will post these events and so I want to make sure you all are listening. So we have some dates and ideas. So Monday is going to be very nice and words of affirmation, and therapy dogs because this has been done in the past. There's going to be a coloring event like this to relax and then Friday is going to be a carnival that's in celebration of the end of dead week. If you have any questions please reach out please also expect more information to come. And then tabling Tuesday's previously mentioned that actually starts next Tuesday 11 to 3 there are a few different tabling sessions I want you to be aware of. So, October 4, and October 8th is going to be what I call general tabling. So that's going to be anybody can come and ask questions about anything concerning ASUNM. So it's your responsibility to make sure you know those questions beforehand. New senators, I don't expect you know it all there will be two people at every single shift. But really make sure you're answering any questions, and welcoming people. This is really a chance to meet all those students who were in the third section, which is going to be Tuesday, November 6. I believe it's going to be all about the election. So pretty much marketing for the election from students where they can find information to tell them to look into your candidates know what you want to support, etc to use their voice. And then the fourth section which is going to be Monday is that for student success. Again, if





you have any questions, please reach out to me. And then another event that we're going to do is going to be Happy Halloween from ASUNM so we're going to give out coffee and donuts on Tuesday morning. So I'd be really excited about that event. And then keep an eye out for an email from Vice President Chessman to sign up for tabling events we really need to all to really get connected with the status and this opportunity to do that.

d. ASUNM Closing Comments

- i. Senator Moore: Great job with the debating and speaking up because that is part of the legislative process. Thank you to everyone who was debating and discussing the process so you're doing your due diligence, and super happy to see like, essentially the new senators speaking out about business and taking initiatives in response.
- ii. Senator Schultz: Shout out to the senators who came to the budget hearings, it was really important. It's a big risk to take two days of your weekend when you could be doing literally anything else and come here to the budget. Listen to her to be representative. So I really appreciate that.
- iii. Senator Ángel: I do want to put out some really great opportunities, talking about diversifying out just like off whatever it is that actually matters to you. Also, I want to shout out our Finance Chair to the table that she gave up. Actually had all the things down which is really informative for the client. It was really great to see our chairs

e. ASUNM President Pro-Tempore

- i. Senator Gurule: Really good to have you all speaking up tonight. If you are interested in writing legislation, then let's start working on it.

f. ASUNM Vice President Closing

- i. Vice President Chessman: I know everyone's looking forward to getting out but if you could just wait a few moments to pack up because I have some things I really want to talk about. First thing I do want to applaud everyone for getting involved in the discussion today. In terms of the actual discussion, I was really impressed by a lot of our new senators getting involved. I think this is probably one of the most engaging discussions that you have had. With that said, I do want to point out that I am incredibly disappointed in the Senate as a whole. President Pacheco did a great deal of outreach about the specific bills we talked about this



evening and not a single senator took her up on the opportunity. I think there might have been a few but as a whole there were probably at most four senators who were opposed to it and 14 of you voted no. So I would encourage you in the future if you feel like you're going to have a dissent of some kind go to the authors and talk about it. A lot of these issues could be brainstormed and ways to address things before we get to the Senate and spend 45 minutes on a discussion of a bill. So moving forward, I would highly, highly encourage all of you if you are opposed to a piece of legislation, to talk to the authors before we get here and spend all this time talking about it in the full Senate. It's not a productive use of time, especially as we come into it with concerns that need to be talked about as a body rather than having discussions behind the scenes when issues can be remedied. So moving forward, people will reach out to you about legislation, take them up on the offer, ask questions to contribute to the legislation is incredibly important and you're not doing your due diligence and your job as a senator if you're not taking that initiative. I'm just another like, the general thing is indiscretion. It's not like a super big deal. But if you were going to refer to a previous speaker, just say like a previous speaker, don't refer to them by their name or Senator's last name. You could just say like a previous speaker, previous Senator right and like that, that's just purely Parli Pro Basics. Senator Achusim is working on an opinion poll for the Fall Senate election. He has sent out an email with the form. I don't think he's gotten many responses. So please submit your opinions and your ideas for questions and concerns. It's really important that if we want to kind of frame where we're going for the students, it's the upcoming year to have that data to know what we're working with. We also touched base with the Vice President of Student Affairs this morning and got some questions from student affairs to put on the opinion poll as well. So please, please, please, please contribute. That's a great way for you to get involved. I know that there were quite a few discussions about follow-up legislation that came up tonight so if you want to touch base on some of that stuff, come see me now or after we're done

g. Adjournment

- i. Chair adjourns meeting at 8:53 PM.