



**UNLVCSUN**  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT

**The Consolidated Students of the University of Nevada**  
*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

### **SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS** **COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES** **56-03**

*DATE AND TIME: January 21st, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.*

**Student Union - CSUN Senate Chamber 313R**  
**University of Nevada, Las Vegas**  
**4505 S. Maryland Parkway**  
**Las Vegas, Nevada 89154**

**Members of the public can watch  
virtually at**

**[www.youtube.com/@UNLV-CSUNMeetings](http://www.youtube.com/@UNLV-CSUNMeetings)**

**All supplemental materials for this  
meeting may be found at**

**<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Lr7vN4-zXBkMjEQlC4zdMPj1ZVuUNTk?usp=sharing>**

**Additional CSUN documents can be found on the [CSUN Public Drive](#)**

# *CHAIR BRIONES OF THE SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS COMMITTEE*

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE AGENDA AND PUBLIC MEETING NOTE:**

Below is an agenda of all items scheduled to be presented and considered at the meeting. Notification is hereby provided that items on the agenda may be taken out of the order and presented, two or more agenda items may be combined for consideration, and an agenda item may be removed from the agenda or discussion relating to an item on the agenda may be delayed at any time.

Some agenda items are noted as having accompanying reference material. Copies of the reference materials that are distributed at the meeting may be requested by emailing the committee chair at [isaac.briones@unlv.edu](mailto:isaac.briones@unlv.edu).

Accompanying reference materials can be found online at <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Lr7vN4-zXBkMjE0IC4zdMPj1ZVuUNTk?usp=sharing>. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate persons with a disability attending the meeting. Please email the Committee Chair at [isaac.briones@unlv.edu](mailto:isaac.briones@unlv.edu) in advance so that arrangements may be made.

This meeting's agenda has been posted in accordance with NRS 241.020 on the bulletin board located at the front office of CSUN on the third floor of the UNLV Student Union (SU 316), on bulletin boards on the first and seventh floors of FDH (posted by UNLV Media Relations), and the 1st floor of SRWC, and the 1st floor of John S. Wright Hall - Building C (WRI - C). Agendas are also available online at [www.unlv.edu/csun](http://www.unlv.edu/csun) under "Meeting Information" in the appropriate session and meeting number folder.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Public comment will be taken during this agenda item. No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item until the matter is included on an agenda as an item on which action may be taken. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name. The Board Chair may elect to allow additional public comment on a specific agenda item when that agenda item is being considered. In accordance with Attorney General Opinion No. 00-047, as restated in the Attorney General's Open Meeting Law Manual, the Chair may prohibit comment if the content of that comment is a topic that is not relevant to, or within the authority of, the Body, or if the content is willfully disruptive of the meeting by being irrelevant, repetitious, slanderous, offensive, inflammatory, irrational or amounting to personal attacks or interfering with the rights of other speakers.

If a member of the public wishes to provide public comment remotely they may do so by calling 213-338-8477 and enter Meeting ID 918 9551 5727. Public comment may also be submitted in writing by emailing [isaac.briones@unlv.edu](mailto:isaac.briones@unlv.edu) at least 12 hours in advance of the meeting and their public comment will be read aloud.

**AGENDA**  
**Call to Order and Roll Call**  
No. of Committee Members: **11**  
Quorum: **7**

Chair: Briones - *Present*

Vice Chair: Yelvington - *Present*

Member: Ferraris - *Present*

Member: Goodman - *Present*

Member: Hankins - *Present*

Member: King - *Unexcused*

Member: Maldonado - *Present*

Member: Navarro Mendoza - *Present*

Member: Phui - *Present*

Member: Saade - *Present*

Member: Taylor - *Present*

*Chair Briones called the meeting to order at 5:31pm*

*Chair Briones goes into a period of roll call. With 10 members present, quorum is met.*

**1. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT INFORMATION ONLY**

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas wishes to acknowledge and honor the Indigenous communities of this region and recognize that the university is situated on the traditional homelands of the Nuwuvi, Southern Paiute People. We offer gratitude for the land itself, for those who have stewarded it for generations, and for the opportunity to study, learn, work, and be in community with this land.

*Opened: 5:31pm*

*Closed: 5:32pm*

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**INFORMATION ONLY**

*(See foregoing notation regarding public comment)*

*Opened: 5:32pm*

*No public comments were made at this time.*

*Closed: 5:33pm*

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

*Request is made for approval of minutes of previous meetings*

Minutes for meeting 56-02, as posted to the public [www.unlv.edu/csun/meeting-information](http://www.unlv.edu/csun/meeting-information)

*Opened: 5:33pm*

*Chair Briones goes into a voiced vote for approval of 56-02 minutes.*

*With a vote of 9-0-0, the Scholarships and Grants Meeting Minutes 56-02 have been approved.*

*Closed: 5:34pm*

#### **4. REPORTS**

#### **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

##### **A. Advisor's Report (Information Only)**

Chair Briones requests time for the Advisor(s) of the Scholarship and Grant committee to provide any advice and/or information about the committee, meetings, updates, or operational items.

*Opened: 6:48pm*

*Advisor Palacios says hi to the committee.*

*Closed: 6:49pm*

##### **B. Chair's Report (Information Only)**

The Chair will report to the committee concerning relevant action or business which has taken place in their respective areas since the last meeting of the committee.

*Opened: 6:49pm*

*Chair Briones gives an update reporting on meetings with various departments over winter break and continual meetings. Emphasizes tabling for the committee which will take place in the upcoming Monday.*

*Closed: 6:51pm*

##### **C. Vice Chair's Report (Information Only)**

The Vice Chair will report to the committee concerning relevant action or business which has taken place in their respective areas since the last meeting of the committee.

#### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

*New Business is any motion that is new to this meeting. All items will be for possible action unless otherwise stated.*

##### **A. Presentation of the Scholarships and Grants One Time Sponsorship Scholarships [Work Session]**

Chair Briones requests time for the presentation of one time sponsorship scholarships, along with accompanying presentations, training, and other related material regarding one time scholarships. Robert's Rules of Orders will be suspended during this worksession.

*Opened: 5:34pm*

*At this time Robert's Rules of Order are suspended*

*Chair Briones gives a presentation on One Time Sponsorships, giving an overview of why we*

*have one time sponsorships, examples of previous sponsorships, and the creation of one time sponsorships. Two main opportunities that were suggested included creating a new scholarship, and adding funds to an existing scholarship. The bill template was then broken into sections, going over highlighted sections to fill out, and how to do so.*

*Chair Briones opens the floor to any questions or concerns*

*SPPT Jose Ibarra Lira places emphasis on the addendums in the bill template and suggests that data collection can help make a strong case, as well as reaching out for any additional help.*

*Senator Taylor asks a question regarding other RSOs or departments duplicating scholarships.*

*Chair Briones states that there shouldn't be any issues regarding an overlap in duplicated scholarships*

*Chair Briones opens the floor to any further questions or comments.*

*Closed: 5:51pm*

**B. Discussion And Approval of SB 56-04: An Act to Appropriate Funds for The H.O.M.E Scholarship As a One Time Sponsorship** **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

Chair Briones requests time for the discussion and approval of Senate Bill 56 - 04, An Act to appropriate funds for The H.O.M.E Scholarship. Senate Bill 56-04 seeks \$10,000 from the One Time Sponsorship Funds to provide funding for the H.O.M.E Scholarship. Senate Bill 56-04 may be found in the CSUN Supplement material. The request may be subject to amendment at the discretion of the committee.

*Opened: 5:51pm*

*Senator Charlette Cameron presents on the H.O.M.E Scholarship, starting with context on the purpose behind the scholarship, regarding high unavoidable housing costs. The scholarship is a joint initiative between CSUN and the Residence Hall Association (RHA). An overview is given of the eligibility criteria and essay section that applicants would fulfill. The scholarship is directed toward non-WUE students, as they may not receive as much assistance regarding financial aid. A rubric is presented for the essay question section, as well as an application google doc form.*

*Senator Cameron opens the floor to any questions or concerns.*

*Lisamarie Tomassetti mentions that 3 housing scholarships were previously awarded at an amount of \$2,000, and the opportunity to collaborate with CSUN would appropriate more opportunities for students.*

*Tem Sedgwick states that about 60% of their contract lease requests regarding housing are in need of financial assistance.*

*Peter Gatto talks about his experience as the director of housing and shows his support for this bill.*

*SPPT Ibarra Lira refers members to the CSUN Bylaws chapter 802 section 2 letters C, D, E, F, and G, regarding accuracy and statements to verify requirements of scholarship.*

*Senator Navarro Mendoza mentions how important this initiative is, but was in disapproval with a full amount of \$10,000, asking for further clarification on how the numbers were determined and if the amount could be lowered.*

*Senator Cameron mentions that this bill was worked on previously with another senator, and was not able to change the amount of \$10,000.*

*Senator Navarro Mendoza asks for further clarification to the committee on negotiating a lesser amount.*

*Peter Gatto states that the amount of \$10,000 would help 5 students stay on campus, making a significant impact, showing his support for funding the original amount.*

*Tem Sedgwick also agreed that they would make-do with any amount of money approved through this bill.*

*Senator Taylor states the same concern on appropriating the full amount of \$10,000 and if a more permanent scholarship would be used eventually.*

*Senator Cameron states that it is currently just a one time sponsorship.*

*Senator Maldonado states that in her personal experience she paid more for housing than tuition, asking if the scholarship would be opened to students who had to leave due to financial instability.*

*Senator Cameron mentions that unique circumstances may be addressed.*

*Senator Maldonado clarifies her question to mention students enrolled that may have to stop housing.*

*Senator Cameron agrees that they could award the scholarship to students who are enrolled.*

*Peter Gatto states that the scholarship would be used to help prevent students from leaving campus, and \$2,000 would be an appropriate amount, as it was considered thoroughly.*

*Chair Briones opens the floor to any amendments to change the amount of funds.*

*Senator Saade thanks the committee for the presentation and states that he is in agreement with the full amount of \$10,000 considering that out of state students do face high financial insecurity.*

*Senator Navarro Mendoza states that there may be more scholarships to serve all students, asking to lower the amount to closer to \$5,000, stating that the bill would need to be amended.*

*Advisor Palacios mentions that applications must open on the 25th, encouraging the committee to think about giving the full funds for this bill before the fiscal year ends.*

*Chair Briones emphasizes what advisor Palacios said regarding one time sponsorship funds needing to be used.*

*Senator Taylor requests RHA students to make a comment.*

*Senator Briones invites guests to the podium to speak.*

*Naveah Sanford the current RHA president mentions that she has seen the impacts of scholarships and how much work has gone into creating this scholarship to help students, especially those who commute.*

*Shaniece Blackman also shares her personal experience with working and paying for school, especially with rising costs, so this scholarship would be greatly beneficial.*

*Senator Ferraris asks if it would be better to keep the full amount of scholarship or cut the amount total for 5 students or give the scholarship to 10 at a lesser amount.*

*Naveah Sanford mentions that any amount will help but the full amount would be most beneficial.*

*Chair Briones asks for any further questions.*

*Tem Sedgwick thanks the committee for the opportunity to present this scholarship.*

*Senator Navarro Mendoza asks if more scholarships could be given at a smaller amount per each awarded.*

*Naveah Sanford mentions again that any amount would be appreciated.*

*Senator Ferraris asks how many students may be leaving due to financial hardship.*

*Tem Sedgwick states that there are about 54 students leaving due to financial reasons.*

*Senator Taylor asks about the formula used to calculate the scholarship amount awarded to each individual.*

*Senator Cameron states that \$2,000 is a smaller amount that was already compromised.*

*Peter Gatto states that \$2,000 is a threshold amount that would be most appropriate to help students based on their previous conversations on the amount.*

*Chair Briones opens the floor to any further questions.*

*Senator Navarro Mendoza proposed to amend bill 56-04, for the budget not to exceed \$6,000 for the one time scholarship sponsorship but no second was made.*

*Chair Briones asks for any further questions or comments regarding the bill itself.*

*Senator Hankins states that she is in favor of the \$10,000 amount and asks Chair Briones on his opinion if the potential \$20,000 remaining one time sponsorship amount would be enough to cover any further one time sponsorships.*

*Chair Briones asks for clarification.*

*Senator Hankins clarifies that it would be if the bill passed, and a remaining \$20,000 was left.*

*Chair Briones states that if the bill were to pass there would be \$13,000 left.*

*Senator Hankins agrees and asks if that would be enough to fund further one time sponsorships for this fiscal year.*

*Senator Briones suggests lowering the budget if more one time sponsorships would be created or added but states that it is ultimately up to the committee's discretion.*

*Senator Hankins states that she is still in support of the full \$10,000 amount, bringing up advisor Palacios's comment, and disbursing more scholarships at a smaller amount.*

*Senator Maldonado states that if students were to get this scholarship their payment costs would be lowered to a more manageable amount and was therefore in favor of the amount of \$10,000 for 5 students.*

*Senator Cameron clarifies that it is not directly stated in the bill how many students the amounts would be awarded to.*

*Chair Briones states that he would be fine with any set disbursement amount, asking for any other points of discussion.*

*Senator Taylor moves to amend the bill not to exceed \$10,000 and to be disbursed to 5 recipients*

*Senator Hankins seconds the amendment.*

*Chair Briones opens the floor to a period of discussion regarding the amendment itself.*

*Senator Ferraris states that more recipients with a smaller amount would be more effective.*

*Senator Hankins asks for clarification on the amount of \$2,000 per 5 recipients totaling \$10,000.*

*SPPT Ibarra Lira states that the motion would have to either be rescinded or amended again.*

*Senator Taylor rescinds the motion to amend bill 56-04.*

*SPPT Ibarra Lira asks the committee to move to amend the bill if there are any changes wanting to be made.*

*Senator Hankins moves to amend bill 56-04 to rephrase the disbursement of funds to be allocated to 5 recipients at \$2,000 each, totaling \$10,000.*

*Senator Taylor seconds the amendment.*

*Chair Briones opens the floor to a period of discussion regarding the amendment itself.*

*Chair Briones goes into a roll call vote for the amendment of 56-04.*

*Vice Chair Yelvington - Y*

*Senator Ferraris - N*

*Senator Goodman - Y*

*Senator Maldonado -Y*

*Senator Navarro Mendoza - Y*

*Senator Phui - Y*

*Senator Saade - Y*

*Senator Taylor -Y*

*With a vote of 8-1-0 the amendment passes.*

*Chair Briones opens the floor to any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the bill.*

*SPPT Ibarra Lira invites the committee to amend the bill regarding the title.*

*Senator Maldonado proposes to amend the bill to be titled Senate Bill 56-03.*

*Attorney General Rejas asks for clarification on the meeting number.*

*SPPT Ibarra Lira states that he was referring to the current meeting 56-03.*

*Senator Maldonado motions to amend bill 56-04 to read Senate Bill 56-03.*

*Senator Ferraris seconds the amendment.*

*Chair Briones moves to a voice vote on the approval of the amendment to the bill to read as Senate Bill 56-03.*

*With a vote of 9-0-0 the amendment passes.*

*Chair Briones opens the floor to any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the bill.*

*Chair Briones goes into a roll call vote for the approval of Senate Bill 56-04.*

*Vice Chair Yelvington - Y*

*Senator Ferraris - N*

*Senator Goodman - Y*

*Senator Maldonado - Y*

*Senator Navarro Mendoza - Y*

*Senator Phui - Y*

*Senator Saade - Y*

*Senator Taylor -Y*

*With a vote of 8-1-0 SB 56-04 has been approved.*

*Closed: 6:48pm*

## **6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

## **INFORMATION ONLY**

*Opened: 6:51pm*

*Closed:6:52pm*

## **7. ADJOURN**

*The meeting was adjourned at 6:52pm.*