I. Call to Order
   a. The meeting was called to order at 2:08pm.

II. Roll Call
   a. There were 17 out of 21 senators present, we met quorum.

III. Approval of the Minutes
   a. Minutes were approved with 0 corrections.

IV. Communications and Announcements
   a. Senators
      i. Leshe: The physics students would like to thank y’all for your support on Wednesday and to tell y’all thank you.
   b. Non-Senators

V. Presiding Officer Communications and Announcements
   a. VP Willis presiding report. I just want to ask everyone who is squeezed in this room to be quiet and controlled because these walls are thin.

VI. President Pro Tempore and Committee Reports
   a. President Pro Tempore
      i. Christopher: The finance and governance committees met in a joint meeting on Thursday. We went line by line through the referendum. We issued 11 amendments. We had everyone in attendance, and it was very productive and long. We put a lot of thought into this, and we hope you like what we have come up with. We went over Student Affairs’ amendments and agreed to their changes brought up in their committees.
   b. Committee Reports
      i. Aucoin: SA committee met after last senate meeting. 3 out of 5 members present. We have 7 amendments dealing with the amount allocated. We did agree that finance and governance’s ideas are just fine.
      ii. Hollis: The constitution reform met on Wednesday. Changes that are put in is that in the event that a senator runs for the office of president and loses, and if there is a open seat they can be appointed to an open seat in
the senate. Typically a senator would not be allowed be appointed after election period but we made a special case in the senate.

VII. Executive Reports, Judicial Reports, Advisor Reports
   a. President
      i. Teagle: Good afternoon everyone. I would like to remind everyone that the bill has it stand with the money that is allocated except subsection I is exactly the numbers the sub committees decided was the appropriate level. These numbers we thought were the maximum we could give to people to support it and the maximum we could give to people. The whole purpose of this bill is a resting control of a failing system of funding. We want to put this in the hands of students. I cautious you to be very wary of changing those numbers too much. I told the sub committee we either hang together or hang separate. The strength of this bill currently if passed by the senate it can be advocated powerfully with everyone who supports it.. If you weaken any aspect of that then you lose a powerful force of avocation. This bill is supposed to be a unity all students and advocate the power of all students. This is to make everyone stronger. I just want to remind everyone who votes today. We had a faculty senate meeting and a budget committee meeting where I introduced the basic concepts of the referendum. It was met with overwhelming support by faculty and staff in the budget committee. It was a very powerful message that could chain Baton Rouge. We are doing something really revolutionary because we are sending a clear message of what we want to fund. You break your promise to us we aren’t going to suffer for it. We are hoping Baton Rouge will hear us and that is on you guys today.
       b. Treasurer
       c. Secretary of State
       d. Judicial
       e. Advisors
          i. Sipe: I just want to echo one thing David said that it’s a really powerful message. For those of you who haven’t read it states that every $1 allocated is controlled by students no one else. That’s a really powerful message not to send to Baton Rouge but to the university as well. This is not final if you are not feeling strongly about I encourage you to pass that on to the student body. What we are deciding on today is if we should pass this on to the student body.

VIII. Old Business
   a. R.S15C034 – Fee Bill Referendum
      i. Senator Early sat in as temporary Parliamentarian.
      ii. Questioning
1. Christopher: Is there an amendment issue to remove the 1987 referendum on this?
2. Ballard: It’s already removed on it. It’s under the third whereas.
3. Christopher: It needs to be in the inactive portion because whereas is just a statement.

iii. Initial Debate: Against
1. Leshe: I have talked to numerous people from my department, and I am getting the same thing. I was going to hold an open forum for this but due to fact that it is an emergency meeting. My department is saying no to this bill. So I oppose this bill.

iv. Support Sponsor
1. Ballard: I am sorry that your college is upset with this, but I think that this is the only way to move our university forward. We have been talking about this for a long time. We are calling an emergency session because there is a deadline coming up that we can’t help. We have studied the numbers, and I think this is the only way to keep my university moving forward no matter what you are part of this university you are we are hurting for money. At this point we need to take control.
2. Aucoin: Yes this is not the most ideal, but this is so much better.
3. Hollis: The question of fairness of the bill about what programs get what and the students that get the fees. I do understand but fairness no longer comes into play. At this point UNO faces not a question of stopping but a fight for survival. We need this. I do find it unfortunate that the final vote had to be in emergency without open forums at the same time we are desperate.
4. Lambert: The budget committee was put together of students across the university not just one group and now it has become an effort from multiple groups. It is a fee bill for the students by the students. It helps everyone not just one group.
5. Paige: The whereas that says that it will replace the 1987 student service fee referendum. The student service fee is also where the student affairs and SIL budget comes from and if you change that without adding us in there. You wouldn’t have funding to have that staff.
7. Paige: Student affairs and SIL are also.
8. Ballard: Would that fall under a student experience?
10. Ballard: I was not aware.
11. Teagle: I do support the bill, but the important thing to remember is that sub section A of part 3 is that the academic fees and that fee is to be used by all colleges. The money to be projected is $7.6 million a year, and imagine if we had passed this last year we might still have programs on the books that we don’t have right now. We cut programs and are firing teachers.

v. Initial Debate: Against

1. Leshe: It is not the funding that they disagree with but it is the procedures spelled out by this. I hope most of this is fixed with amendment. As it stands, I can’t support.

vi. Support

1. Christopher: The student fee referendum is important. Week after week we sit in the university budget committee and see the most horrifying shocking numbers. The amount of drop of next year is projected to be about $18 million. So about 20% of university being gone. This fee bill is a conservative way to fight back some of that. It doesn’t mean things aren’t going to be bad it just means things aren’t going to be worse. Doing nothing allows the state to cut higher education. The idea that people can move out of current standing to educate themselves and do something better. The funding in here is good and goes to great things to make the university better. Not in the short term alone but the long term. This university needs to grow. It’s a sad thing to say that the state can only cut so much of the funding because eventually they aren’t giving us anything. I ask my fellow senators to stand up and support this bill with me it’s bigger than any of us individually. It is saving departments, colleges, and huge chunks of this university that would otherwise fall apart. Understand it’s not about one group but the whole picture and making UNO stronger together.

2. Early: I support this bill to echo Senate Christopher said. It’s not about just some areas its about the whole. It’s about entire school to make sure that we go and advocate and talk about this and tell people that this is our money and we can spend it how we want because the federal government can’t touch it. Once this is voted and passed it’s up to us to go and spread the word because we can’t do anything unless we know what we are doing.

vii. Amendment:

1. First Amendment: UC to hear
   a. Ballard: These are mine as the author and most are spelling. The first is the spelling issue in subsection C I misspelled
subcommittee. The second is to change the technology fees name to digital info structure. The reason for that is so it doesn’t look like you are paying for two technology fees. I think it would help market and simpler for everyone. Third, in section D it reads 10% but doesn’t state 10% of what and now it will say 10% of this fee. Four, change the wording in subsection D, it will state it will be for maintenance and beautification units/projects. Also, change the wording in subsection E, get rid of FYI language. I put Student Leadership and Involvement and it needs to be Student Involvement and Leadership. I need to change section 4, it reads that they can raise it 0-5% or the amount of the tuition raise now as that reads if they raise tuition 1% we can only raise the fees 1%. We are going to change it to if there is a tuition change greater than 5% they can raise it to the amount of the tuition change. The counseling fee will be change to the physical and mental health fee. Instead of saying if you agree or disagree it would be do you support. I present these at the same time because it’s just changing some words.

b. Hollis: Since it does not change the substance of the bill itself it passes unless there is an objection. It is passed.

2. Second Amendment: UC to hear
   a. Aucoin: The dollar amount in section 3 subsection A would be changed to $174 of the academics.
   b. Rise in opposition
   c. Banks: Why the increase?
   d. Aucoin: Student Affairs felt that the dollar amount would help.
   e. Teagle: There is already push back on the total amount of fees $384. We can’t put more on students and these numbers were balance to an amount that we thought students could pay and pass the student vote. I stand in opposition to increase any price.
   f. Roll call: 4 – yes 13 – no 0 – abstention. This is not passed.

3. Third Amendment: UC to hear
   a. Aucoin: This amendment is to change the learning common fee to a library fee it would be used for all. Since it is going for more services we would be valid to raise from $1 to $5.
b. Rise in opposition

c. Lambert: I am rising because I am a member of budget committee, and I feel like increase any dollar amount outside the budget committee would not be a representation of the student body’s will.

d. Teagle: We chose the learning commons for a specific reason that currently the SG is helping assist with and allow them to have their own budget (scantrons, office supplies, etc.) They have their own budget with a simple $1 fee.

e. Roll call: 8 – yes 8 – no 1– abstention. This is not passed due to VP Willis’s tiebreaker.

f. Senator Aucoin drops his 5 amendments

4. Eighth Amendment: UC to hear

a. Schantz: This implies to section 3 subsection I, it currently changes the amounts the SG fee, senate fees remains the same, SAC remains the same, the executive fund remains, the Greek council changes from 10% to 3%, changes privateer council from 5% to 2% and those amounts goes to central account raise form 15% to 35%. We felt that they reflected the needs of interest. It would have to go through normal senate process.

b. Rise in opposition

i. Teagle: I oppose that the concepts because majority of SG money goes to philanthropy event by Greeks. Why don’t we give more a flexibly. We are talking about a population of students that are some of the most involved, they raise the most philanthropic money on campus, and when they reached out to athletics those are the highest attended games and events on campus. Why restrict that ability when we are trying to increase pride. This would give them that opportunity. If all the money doesn’t get used it will go back to central budget committee.

ii. Christopher: Money at either level will be fine.

iii. Leshe: I only tracked a 10% change and you gave the central budget committee.

iv. Ballard: You didn’t allot any money to the reserve account.

v. Teagle: Are you addressing the reserve account in your amendment?
vi. Christopher: With the current bill it has an automatic that is unnecessary to go into reserve account because it the money goes there.

vii. Teagle: We are required by law to have a 10% in account.

viii. Schantz: The way I understand is that the money goes there anyway.

ix. Paige: You would not budget money to the reserve. You already have a standing reserve. You only budget if there is a negative reserve balance.

x. Willis: He can take it out and it will be fine?

xi. Paige: By state law Teagle is correct, the 10% will be taken off the top of the fee and you don’t have to budget it in.

xii. Teagle: The 10% will be taken regardless which is why we wrote it in so it’s clear to the students.

xiii. Christopher: She is saying that there has to be a 10% reserve to the operating budget, not the 10% each year.

xiv. Paige: The way that its done now is that if you have 10% already in the reserve of what you have is that you don’t have reduce current allocation. You already have that amount currently.

xv. Willis: So we need to keep it in?

xvi. Teagle: It’s up to the senate.

xvii. Willis: Does the senate understand what’s going on?

xviii. Senate: No.

xix. Willis: Teagle and LeJana chat it out so we can understand what’s going on.

xx. Teagle: Basically the concept is that we are required by law is that we spend money before we have the money because the money comes in the 14th day of enrollment, technically but we are spending money way earlier. By law, we are required to have a 10% of reserve of any funds we get. The 10% of reserve is our capital outlet. So the concept is automatically in the fee is so we can freely use the capital outlet up to its limit every year. We never have to calculating the reserve because it’s done through fee
itself. We always have to have 10% that’s for incase of Katrina where we spend money and where an emergency happens and we don’t have students. The state still expects us to pay our bills. We need to decide if we take it out or they take it out. That’s why we did it that way. It also grows a reserve account much faster and larger.

xxi. Paige: SG fee already has a positive reserve account whatever fee brings in, and we don’t have 10% that we would have to put in whatever to get to that amount. If have enough to cover what eh current budget is. The reserve account rolls over and doesn’t go away. Whatever net outs that will automatically roll over the reserve.

xxii. Guidry: If they are taking 10% off the top and if we are budgeting for 10%, are we double counting?

xxiii. Paige: I would not budget the reserve, period.

xxiv. Leshe: Since your amendment does not mention reserve account does it mean that it’s still there?

xxv. Schantz: Yes, taking out whatever we need for that period. Whatever the budget is for that period. We are leaving out of this and letting it happen automatically.

c. Roll call: 11 – yes 2 – no 4 – abstention. The amendment is attached.

5. Ninth Amendment: UC to hear
   a. Guidry: This is to change the wording of section 3 subsection i. I propose to take allocations out and put into committees. I would like to leave it up to a vote.
   b. Rise in opposition
      i. Ballard: That is a lot of money to not allocate. We have made a promise to SAC that they would have funding out of that and I think we have to support since we promised them.
      ii. Hollis: SAC would receive funding.
      iii. Aucoin: This is a large fee and needs to be some stability inside.
      iv. Teagle: We should afford anything that creates competitions between the SGA. We would have to
have someone decide which is more important. The executive branch or legislative branch.

c. Roll call: 3 – yes 12– no 2– abstention. The amendment is not attached.

6. Tenth Amendment: UC to hear
   a. Guidry: This is addressing the athletics portion. I have understood $150 was requested from this fee bill. I proposed that we give them the $150 and vote on it separately on the student side. If the students feel like they want to support athletics we should let them.
   b. Aucoin: Alter sections 2 and 3. From section 2 we would take out athletics out of the 2015 student self asset fee plan and put it on the new section 4 and it would be inactivate that it would be determine to agree or disagree that 2015 student self asset athletic fee. It would make a new section 5, subsection A UNO SGA athletics fee and be at $150.
   c. Rise in Opposition:
      i. Early: does that mean that we would have to write a whole new separate referendum for athletics?
      ii. Willis: You have to state what you are changing to from to what.
      iii. Schantz: So what this does is takes athletics and makes it a separate vote, and if the referendum is passed would students vote separately on this? Or would it be at the same time?
      iv. Aucoin: The same time.
      v. Schantz: They can vote it out basically.
      vi. Teagle: First point, that was not what committee recommend. The numbers reflect what committee believes. The committee strongly believes we hang together or hang separately. To remove athletics essentially kills any possibility of athletics. The whole concept is that we are going to unify and advocate together. Athletics were going to advocate for academics and academics were going to advocate for athletics. We are dividing and that’s unacceptable. Students will not vote on the increase. If we keep it together we can get them. I strongly oppose this amendment.
vii. Willis: I just want the gallery to know that if you would like to speak a senator can yield their time to you. After senators go then you can.

viii. Aucoin: We were going off of numbers so athletics wouldn’t be going bankrupt.

ix. Teagle: He did give incorrect information. No point in time has the authors or committee offered $150.

x. Aucoin: We were not saying sub committee we were saying athletics.

xi. Banks: I opposed the bill for $150 because I think it’s a hard push for the students. I think $150 is way too much.

xii. Ballard: We have to have athletics is really important to what we do as a university. Our mascot is about our athletics. I don’t think its okay to cut them and you put them on a separate bill and you are deciding today to not have athletics.

xiii. Leshe: My college is already opposed to $55 so I can’t support.

xiv. Early: I rise in opposition because $150 I would love to give $150 to athletics department but the way tuition growing up, and regular fees going up, and what little money we do have is the maximum.

xv. Hollis: Putting athletics around the same amount for opposing for academics would be an impossible sell. Given to the departments that are closing, I cant see any realistic way that a student’s program is under threat would vote to have the same amount given to athletics.

xvi. Guidry: My goal is to not fail athletics department. I feel like $55 is Band-Aid on a broken arm. I just wanted to ask students if they really wanted to save athletics.

xvii. Guest: As an athlete and we would want more money, if we were to vote on it separately we would have to think of is as that we are rebuilding athletics. I think as a committee and I think we should keep it together. Once it starts to improve then students will start to get more involved in athletics. Whatever little we can do will help.
xviii. Guest: I think the assumption that athletics will fail in three years is dramatic and overstated. Why is athletics being treated separately when bill is accommodating Greek Life, SAC, etc.? When athletics are students that go to UNO. What would be your rational?

xix. Christopher: It's not him or either senators that athletics are going to fail. University removed athletics from the general operating budget and athletics is now funded fully from a grant. So athletics is going to be funded but y'all are on a timer. It’s the money isn’t there. It extends the life of the grant by a year. $150 amount would cover your current operating cost right now. The question is if we are going to put it on the students in the future.

xx. Guidry: If y’all don’t want it, I am going to retract.

xxi. Teagle: President Fos has already said he intends to help fund athletics in the next three years. He hopes to be able to do that. We can’t operation on the future that we have before. They have a desire to fund athletics from the general fund. And they are going to find unique ways to do that.

xxii. Banks: When I was in the open forum he did talk about UL passed a fee for athletics, and I don’t think athletics is going anywhere in three years.

xxiii. Guest: It sounds like athletics is not apart of UNO. We are not fully operating off of grants. Its student athletics and you are talking about students leaving university. Even if it’s a temporary fix, it’s for your students.

xxiv. Ballard: We have throughout the process we have treated athletics as the stepchild. Y’all are the people see and y’all going out and represent us as well. If we rebuild more students will go to events. We should support and not tear them down.

xxv. Guest: us as athletes aren’t just athletes. We are in a lot of organizations. You would get rid of student leaders if athletics had to leave.
xxvi. Teagle: The only student group that came to advocate today were athletics.


7. Eleventh Amendment: UC to hear
   a. Schantz: Instead of pulling completely taking it out it would be changing amount of $55 a student to $30.
   b. Rise in Opposition
      i. Ballard: It’s the same concept. I think we should fund athletics.
      ii. Aucoin: Is that money going somewhere else?
      iii. Schantz: We are just changing the amount. There was no this money comes from and goes somewhere.
      iv. Early: The dollar amounts that are on this bill has been talked about by the student budget committee. At this point of changing any dollar amount on this bill, I feel is inappropriate.
      v. Guest: I have an email from athletics department explaining how changing the dollar amounts double. Every dollar that goes to athletics comes back to university. It takes $1 into $2. Athletics pays university to advertise. If you are wearing mascot you are supporting athletics.
      vi. Brandt serves as temporary parliamentarian.
      vii. Hollis: Just echoing off of that point, this is only the second year that athletics has been getting any real national exposure.
      viii. Christopher: I think points have been made, and we should vote on it.
   c. Roll call: 3 – yes 13 – no 0 – abstention. The amendment is not attached.

8. Twelfth Amendment: UC to hear
   a. Ballard: Hunter Christopher would like to be added as a sponsor.
   b. Roll call: The amendment is passed.

9. Final Debate: Against
   a. Leshe: I have said it before that I can still not support.

10. Support
a. Ballard: I think all of you have worked hard. This has been a huge process long before I was in the senate. Thank you and thank you for your support.

b. Hollis: I understand the concern over the details; I think that it’s not perfect but it is needed. I do wish there would have been more time for open forums.

c. Aucoin: This is something that is necessary. It’s matters outside of our hands. We need to survive in my opinion.

d. Christopher: I support that this can bring change to New Orleans. The student body could do more things. All the other universities have does this over time. It’s amazing to see the work that has been put into this. I ask all the senators in the room to support. Recognize that getting even 80% of what you want is better than getting 0. Lets give us a shield and pass this referendum.

e. Teagle: I strongly encourage every senator to vote. This is amazing. The senators who sponsored and those who amendments. We created the strongest thing that we can and we have the potential to change the face of UNO.

f. Roll call: 16 – yes 2 – no 0 – abstention. This Referendum is passed.

IX. New Business

X. Nominations and Appointments

XI. Open Forum

a. Hollis: The work for this is not done. This doesn’t have much weight unless the students vote on it. We need to get the word out so we can help you.

b. Early: Again, please go do as much as you can. I am apart of SAC and make sure you state what its all about not just one specific group. Also, use social media.

c. Teagle: Since the bill is passed the next part is presenting it. Once I sign it, I can bring to VP. We need to have the student vote. We need to have forums between now and the student vote. I hate to do this to Secretary of State. We need about three forums. Its unfair to have to do that one her own. Help Kristin organize these things. We have to hit the ground running.

d. Guidry: I am glad it’s passed. It’s primary to our success here at UNO. I represent people as a senator and my concern here today were not mine only.

e. Schantz: One, this is still part of a bigger fight assuming it goes through the students and this is still a small piece of what’s in the works. We can’t relax, and we have to keep fighting. Getting information out we need to keep talking. I think the key is to get information out there because some people aren’t about having this. We have to get it out there. We need to come up with plans.
f. Willis: I want to congratulate IDS about getting a blast email out there about a breakdown of everything. I encourage all of y’all do the same. Just try.
g. Sipe: The UL system is the system that has to approve this before we can tell students. Y’all can still advocate in the mean time. This money can’t be taken away. This is something protected by students.
h. Christopher: Can we get a more detailed breakdown of the 1987 referendum?
i. Paige: Yes.
j. Leshe: Do we have an estimate timeline on how long this will take to get student vote?
k. Teagle: I have to have documentation to Dr. Kemper by the 1st. Then he and I and maybe Fos, will go to advocate to the system board on the 25th. It would take place after the 25th.
l. Trahan: Send me emails and let me know what you think. Anything you send me, I can try and get it out to students. It’s better to walk into open forums knowing some questions instead of not knowing what to talk about. Let me know what you think.
m. Lambert: Joy and I did go to board of regions meeting this week. They were very impressed about our work. We can safely assume that it will get to student vote. I will be involved in marketing, let me know if you want to help.
n. Hollis: To those in the gallery, we also meet every Tuesday and thank you for coming out.
o. Guidry: Engineering did get details out.
p. Aucoin: When we are sending out emails, send a CC to other senators in different colleges so they can send out that email to their colleges as well. Thank y’all for coming. If y’all have any other concerns let us know.
q. Banks: For anyone asking a question about the bill, who should students direct their questions to?
r. Ballard: Me.
s. Banks: Also, thank you again for showing up!
t. Guest: The athletics department is on board. This is from him. Thank you for keeping athletics in mind.
u. Teagle: We have to double-check our own work because it creates stronger bills. It’s always important. We as SG also feel we are separate from rest of students, if you think are athletics separate. Also, I am glad y’all came out to support.
v. Aucoin: I would like to point out that when someone was a proxy they voted different than what they voted for themself. Vote the proxy vote.
w. Willis: Everyone who had an amendment stay.

XII. Adjournment
a. 3:48pm.