

From: [NSHE](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee, September 5, 2024
Date: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 9:42:23 PM

External Email:

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee, September 5, 2024

Email: kent.ervin@nevadafacultyalliance.org

Name: Kent Ervin

Representing someone other than yourself?: Nevada Faculty Alliance

Meeting: Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee, September 5, 2024

Agenda Item: 6. Title IX Update

In Favor / Opposed / Other: No Position stated – Concerned or Neutral

Comment:

The new Title IX revisions in the Handbook satisfy the new federal regulations. We appreciate positive changes including the clarification that Title IX's prohibition on sex-based discrimination applies to sexual orientation and gender identity, and the broader definition of hostile environment harassment. These provisions are consistent with the broad goal of achieving gender equality.

The requirement for all faculty members to be mandatory reporters is counterproductive, however, and violates the autonomy of students and employees and their ability to get advice while requesting confidentiality from a trusted faculty member, colleague, or supervisor. (See also: aaup.org/aaup-response-final-title-ix-regulations)

However, it is most important that this committee addresses the very real problems of discrimination and power-based violence on our campuses, including sexual assaults and harassment, and how complaints are handled—or mishandled. Many of our students and colleagues report severe incidents in climate surveys and say they do not have faith in the Equal Opportunity/Title IX offices to help or even investigate. Yet some regents are more concerned about who uses restrooms and locker rooms.

There is an urgent need for uniform systemwide statistical reporting on the complaints, investigative outcomes, and final dispositions of all Title IX complaints and all other discrimination, equal-opportunity complaints, employee grievances, and student and employee disciplinary actions.

The Board needs full reporting to identify and correct systematic issues. We at NFA regularly

hear about deficiencies in how Title IX and other investigations are handled. Cases that could have been resolved at earlier stages escalate into litigation, or frustrated employees or students go to the media. To hold the institutions accountable, which is the job of the Board, you must at least collect the data.

Please request a policy for full uniform statistical reporting.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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