

**From:** [NSHE](#)  
**To:** [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, January 16-17, 2025  
**Date:** Monday, January 13, 2025 2:21:18 PM

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**External Email:**

# Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

## Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, January 16-17, 2025

**Email:** banerd1@unlv.nevada.edu

**Name:** Dhritiman Banerjee

**Representing someone other than yourself?:**

**Meeting:** Board of Regents Special Meeting, January 16-17, 2025

**Agenda Item:** Nevada Open Meeting Law

**In Favor / Opposed / Other:** In Favor

**Comment:**

I am an international student who is facing unfair treatment in UNLV. I have informed this to the Board of Regents and would now request the Nevada Assistant Attorney General to help me get punitive damages from the University because of false accusations of international terrorism against the US Consulate in Kolkata, India.

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

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education  
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

**From:** [NSHE](#)  
**To:** [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, January 16-17, 2025  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 14, 2025 11:17:39 AM

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**External Email:**

# Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

## Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, January 16-17, 2025

**Email:** cesar.prietto@unlv.edu

**Name:** Cesar Prietto

**Representing someone other than yourself?:**

**Meeting:** Board of Regents Special Meeting, January 16-17, 2025

**Agenda Item:** 17. Procedures and Guidelines Manual Revision, Differential Program Fees, UNLV – Architecture Program

**In Favor / Opposed / Other:** In Favor

**Comment:**

I support a revision to the Achitecture Program use of the Differential Fees for student team/group travel to expose them to the architecture around the world, special lectures, workshops for the students who pay into the differential fees, group presentations – again by students who pay differential fees, classroom and common space resource updates. Students greatly benefit from travel as they get exposed to the different architectures and the history behind it. The use of the differential fees for this would allow the department to expand the student travel for those classes that pay into differential fees. The department is not changing or increasing the fees. Only asking to have the usage of the fees revised.

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

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**From:** [NSHE](#)  
**To:** [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, January 16-17, 2025  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 14, 2025 11:23:50 AM

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**External Email:**

# Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

## Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, January 16-17, 2025

**Email:** alexander.kent@unlv.edu

**Name:** Alexander Kent

**Representing someone other than yourself?:**

**Meeting:** Board of Regents Special Meeting, January 16-17, 2025

**Agenda Item:** Revision of the Architecture program differential fee usage for student team travel

**In Favor / Opposed / Other:** In Favor

**Comment:**

As an Architecture Student I support the Revision of the Architecture program differential fee usage for student team travel. As a student in the architecture program, this would greatly benefit me.

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

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**From:** [NSHE](#)  
**To:** [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, January 16-17, 2025  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 15, 2025 12:22:29 PM

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**External Email:**

# Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

## Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, January 16-17, 2025

**Email:** Kent.Ervin@NevadaFacultyAlliance.org

**Name:** Kent Ervin

**Representing someone other than yourself?:** Nevada Faculty Alliance

**Meeting:** Board of Regents Special Meeting, January 16-17, 2025

**Agenda Item:** General Public Comment – Academic Freedom and Shared Governance

**In Favor / Opposed / Other:** In Favor

### Comment:

In the spirit of the orientation sessions, a brief explanation of academic freedom and shared governance:

- Academic freedom is the freedom to teach.
- Academic freedom is the freedom to determine curriculum and academic standards.
- Academic freedom is the freedom to explore all avenues of scholarship, research, and creative expression and to disseminate the results.
- Academic freedom is the freedom to speak or write on matters of public concern and on any matter related to professional duties including the administration of the academic institution, free from institutional censorship or discipline.

Academic freedom is related to but distinct from first-amendment freedom of speech.

Academic freedom does not mean free rein to discuss material with no relation to the subject of a class, but teachers must be free to discuss controversial material. Controversy is at the heart of free academic inquiry.

Tenure is an important protection of academic freedom, but academic freedom extends to all teachers and researchers.

Shared governance is part of academic freedom for faculty collectively. Faculty have primary responsibility for curriculum, subject matter and methods of instruction, research, faculty status, and those aspects of student life related to the educational process. The responsibility for faculty status includes appointments, reappointments, decisions not to reappoint, promotions, the granting of tenure, and dismissal. Faculty must have meaningful input in the

hiring and evaluation of academic leadership.

For further information, please refer to the 1940 Joint Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure (<https://www.aaup.org/report/1940-statement-principles-academic-freedom-and-tenure>) of the American Association of University Professors and the American Association of Colleges and Universities and the AAUP statement on college and university governance (<https://www.aaup.org/report/statement-government-colleges-and-universities>).

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

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**From:** [NSHE](#)  
**To:** [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, January 16-17, 2025  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 15, 2025 3:40:13 PM

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**External Email:**

# Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

## Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, January 16-17, 2025

**Email:** b\_beu@hotmail.com

**Name:** Burke Scot Beu

**Representing someone other than yourself?:**

**Meeting:** Board of Regents Special Meeting, January 16-17, 2025

**Agenda Item:** general public comment

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

### **Comment:**

My name is Burke Scot Beu, 7110 Montview Blvd. #208, Denver CO 80220. I'm a UNLV alum. I gave public comment 2 years ago and 4 years ago, each time at the January meeting when new regents took their oath of office. Once again, I want to express my concerns regarding the UNLV mascot. This board and the UNLV administration insist that the nickname Rebel means rebellious just like Las Vegas, and that there is no mascot. In reality, the general public tends to use nickname and mascot interchangeably.. A few years ago, the Pulitzer Prize-winning Las Vegas Sun published my letter to the editor on this topic and their professional journalists changed the word nickname to mascot. Today, I'd like to suggest a compromise. Keep Rebel as the nickname and add a mascot, Rebel the Eagle. This would be similar to AL the Elephant, mascot of the University of Alabama whose nickname is of course the Crimson Tide.

The HeyReb mascot is clearly a confederate plantation owner, not a western prospector. Sadly, many media outlets continue to use the HeyReb mascot while UNLV pretends there is no mascot. This was embarrassingly evident during UNLV's otherwise upbeat football season. At least I was embarrassed, weren't you? During the holiday season, I went to the UNLV bookstore to buy a UNLV item as a gift. I told the salesperson I wanted something that said UNLV only. He said that many customers request the same thing. The nickname/mascot thing is a problem. You need to fix this problem. If an eagle mascot represented the rebel nickname, then there would be no need for anyone to revert to a previous, racist image. Many fans would

be proud to say: Run with the Rebels, Soar like an Eagle.

Again, keep Rebel as the nickname, add Eagle as the mascot. I look forward to seeing Rebel the Eagle at future UNLV events. I hope you'll stop ignoring this concern. Please take my name off of the alumni association and the UNLV Foundation email lists. I won't donate until UNLV acts responsibly. Thank you!

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

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**From:** [NSHE](#)  
**To:** [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, January 16-17, 2025  
**Date:** Friday, January 17, 2025 2:59:44 PM

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**External Email:**

# Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

## Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, January 16-17, 2025

**Email:** glenn.nowak@unlv.edu

**Name:** Glenn Nowak

**Representing someone other than yourself?:**

**Meeting:** Board of Regents Special Meeting, January 16-17, 2025

**Agenda Item:** PROPOSED REVISIONS FOR EXISTING PROGRAMS University of Nevada, Las Vegas

**In Favor / Opposed / Other:** In Opposition

### Comment:

Neither specialized lectures, workshops, and presentations nor new approaches to classroom furnishings necessitate use of differential fees. Previous lecture series were sponsored by professionals in the community. Past furniture upgrades may have been donated or largely discounted in an effort to showcase emerging product trends in an environment filled with future design professionals thinking about product specifications. While demand for student/team travel may often exceed resources this may be exacerbated by the fact that there is not a formal link between the curriculum and several of the travel requests. Studio travel requests have largely been at the discretion of individual faculty. If their choice of a project site or precedent to analyze is out of town, each is eligible to request travel money. As yearly enrollments or memberships in student organizations fluctuate, just as diverse travel destinations vary in their degree of expense, there is little transparency in how differential funds are distributed equitably across all disciplines.

Use of differential fees to "Support PTI's and other direct instructional expenses." creates an inequity between tenure-track/tenured faculty and PTIs. When PTIs are hired to teach 6-credit studios, their funding formula does not follow the per credit rate because those 6-credit courses meet for 11 hours. The PTIs are justly paid nearly double for their additional time in the studio classrooms; recognizing their time is valuable. However, when tenured or tenure-track faculty are assigned to teach these 11-hour/week studio courses, they are only credited with a 6-hour load and expected to teach an additional 3-credit seminar.



An excerpt from Board of Regents Handbook Title 4, Chapter 10  
Section 18. Use of Differential Program Fees, allows GAs to register without such a fee. Our  
GAs must pay and struggle financially.  
The proposed revisions by the School of Architecture were not voted on by the faculty.

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

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