

**From:** [NSHE](#)  
**To:** [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Winter Lipson](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, February 20, 2026  
**Date:** Thursday, February 12, 2026 6:23:25 PM

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**External Email:**

# Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

## Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, February 20, 2026

**Email:** [staci.walters@nevadafacultyalliance.org](mailto:staci.walters@nevadafacultyalliance.org)

**Name:** Staci Walters

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

**Meeting:** Board of Regents Special Meeting, February 20, 2026

**Agenda Item:** 2. AUTHORIZATION TO DEVIATE FROM PROCESSES DEFINED IN BOARD OF REGENTS POLICY, NEVADA STATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH

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

### **Comment:**

My name is Staci Walters, and I serve as President of the Nevada Faculty Alliance. I write in opposition to Agenda Item #2, the request to deviate from established Board policy in the Nevada State University presidential search.

Board policies governing presidential searches exist to ensure fairness, transparency, and trust across the NSHE system. Employees at Nevada State University were clearly told that the acting appointment was temporary and that a national search would follow in which the acting president would not be eligible. Granting an exception after the fact creates the appearance that executive hiring decisions may be shaped by circumstances outside the defined process.

Even when well-intended, deviations from clear governance rules erode confidence among faculty, staff, and the public. Trust in institutional leadership depends not only on outcomes, but on consistent adherence to policy. For that reason, we respectfully urge the Board to uphold its established Code and allow the presidential search to proceed under the rules already in place.

Thank you for your consideration.

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

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(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

**From:** [NSHE](#)  
**To:** [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Winter Lipson](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, February 20, 2026  
**Date:** Thursday, February 12, 2026 6:29:18 PM

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**External Email:**

# Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

## Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, February 20, 2026

**Email:** [staci.walters@nevadafacultyalliance.org](mailto:staci.walters@nevadafacultyalliance.org)

**Name:** Staci Walters

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

**Meeting:** Board of Regents Special Meeting, February 20, 2026

**Agenda Item:** 5. Staffing and Position Data, NSHE

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

**Comment:**

Thank you for taking a thoughtful, data-driven approach to reviewing staffing and position information across NSHE institutions. We respectfully encourage that any multi-year analysis also include comparisons to periods when institutional enrollment levels were similar, including pre-pandemic benchmarks.

Comparing current staffing levels to prior years with equivalent student headcounts will provide clearer context for evaluating organizational structure, resource allocation, and institutional need.

We appreciate your attention to this analysis and look forward to your continued review.

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

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**From:** [NSHE](#)  
**To:** [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Winter Lipson](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, February 20, 2026  
**Date:** Thursday, February 19, 2026 8:31:18 AM

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**External Email:**

# Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

## Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, February 20, 2026

**Email:** jim@jimseebock.com

**Name:** Jim

**Representing someone other than yourself?:** Seebock

**Meeting:** Board of Regents Special Meeting, February 20, 2026

**Agenda Item:** Agenda Item 2 – Authorization to Deviate from Process for Nevada State University Presidential Search

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

### **Comment:**

Chair Brooks and Members of the Board,

Nevada State University plays a significant role in Henderson's continued growth. Its campus expansion, land planning, and infrastructure development directly intersect with the City's long-term planning and economic strategy.

As someone who attended Nevada State and now serves on the Henderson City Council, I have seen the institution mature and expand its impact. I offer this perspective in my capacity as an elected council member and not on behalf of the City of Henderson as a whole.

Acting President Amber Lopez Lasater has been actively involved in advancing campus development and land use planning, including work connected to the Nevada State Campus Lands Corporation. Those efforts require coordination, steady leadership, and an understanding of how the University's plans align with surrounding community growth.

Agenda Item 2 does not determine who will be selected as President. It simply addresses whether the Acting President may apply and be considered as part of the search. Allowing her to participate ensures that the Board can evaluate all relevant experience before reaching its decision.

Given the scale of ongoing development and the importance of thoughtful long-term planning, I believe it is appropriate for the Board to review every qualified candidate, including the individual currently leading these initiatives.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jim Seebock  
Councilman, City of Henderson

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

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(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

**From:** [NSHE](#)  
**To:** [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Winter Lipson](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, February 20, 2026  
**Date:** Thursday, February 19, 2026 12:34:59 PM

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**External Email:**

## Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

### Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, February 20, 2026

**Email:** mcmorris@hollandhart.com

**Name:** Matt Morris

**Representing someone other than yourself?:**

**Meeting:** Board of Regents Special Meeting, February 20, 2026

**Agenda Item:** Agenda Item 2

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

**Comment:**

Honorable Members of the Board of Regents – As a NSU graduate and proud alumnus, I am writing regarding Agenda Item 2 and to express enthusiastic support for the proposed deviation to deem NSU Acting President Dr. Amber Lopez-Lasater eligible to apply during the search for a permanent NSU President. This action would not determine who will lead the University as President. It would simply allow the search to move forward without arbitrarily excluding a clearly qualified candidate before the review process even begins. In my view, the Board, NSU and its faculty, and the NSU student and alumni community, would clearly benefit from evaluating every qualified applicant, rather than limiting the pool of potential candidates at the outset. Current policy would apparently exclude the Acting President from consideration. I hope the Board will consider revising this policy to ensure that every qualified applicant, including Acting President Lopez-Lasater, can be considered for this critical leadership role based on their merits and demonstrated ability to successfully lead NSU.

Thank you for your consideration.

Matt Morris, Esq., NSU Class of 2009.

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

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(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)



**PAMELA GOYNES-BROWN**  
MAYOR

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February 19, 2026

**Re: Agenda Item 2 – Authorization to Deviate from Process for Nevada State University Presidential Search**

Chair Brooks and Members of the Board,

I write regarding Agenda Item 2, which would authorize a deviation from existing process to allow Acting President Amber Lopez Lasater to apply in the search for the next President of Nevada State University.

This vote does not appoint a president. It preserves the Board’s discretion and ensures the search field remains complete. In my view, maintaining flexibility at this moment is prudent.

The City of North Las Vegas has been working closely with Nevada State University on the planned expansion into our community. This initiative represents a meaningful opportunity to expand access to higher education, strengthen workforce development, and support long term economic growth in Southern Nevada.

Acting President Lopez Lasater has been directly engaged in advancing this effort. She has helped move forward strategic planning, partnership alignment, and legislative positioning necessary to support the expansion. Her leadership during this period of institutional transition has provided stability and continuity for the project.

Authorizing her eligibility to apply does not predetermine the outcome of the search. It ensures the Board retains full discretion and does not narrow its options before the process begins. Allowing her to submit an application enables the Board to evaluate all qualified candidates on their merits.

As Mayor, my priority is ensuring continued progress on the North Las Vegas campus expansion and strengthening the long-term partnership between our city and Nevada State University. Preserving flexibility during this important period of growth and legislative engagement supports that goal.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pamela Goynes-Brown".

Pamela Goynes-Brown  
Mayor, City of North Las Vega

**From:** [NSHE](#)  
**To:** [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Winter Lipson](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, February 20, 2026  
**Date:** Thursday, February 19, 2026 5:59:52 PM

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**External Email:**

# Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

## Public Comment for the Board of Regents Special Meeting, February 20, 2026

**Email:** anthony.morrone@nevadastate.edu

**Name:** Anthony Morrone

**Representing someone other than yourself?:**

**Meeting:** Board of Regents Special Meeting, February 20, 2026

**Agenda Item:** 4. STUDENT ACCESS FUNDS

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

### Comment:

Chair and Members of the Board, my name is Anthony Morrone, and I have overseen financial aid at Nevada State University for more than fifteen years. I appreciate the opportunity to voice my support for Student Access Funds.

The current policy reflects a deliberate commitment to access and affordability. When the Board established 10 percent and 15 percent set-aside levels in 2010, they were tied to shared responsibility and predictable pricing, ensuring tuition increases were paired with financial aid to preserve student participation in higher education. That principle remains critically important today.

Student Access Funds are not discretionary revenue. Board policy requires that 100 percent of these funds be used for student financial assistance, with at least 80 percent awarded as need-based aid. These dollars directly offset price increases for Nevada students who might otherwise stop out or never enroll. Reducing the percentage may create institutional flexibility, but it would shift costs onto students with the least ability to absorb them.

During the January 23 discussion, concerns were raised about redistribution and alternative uses of funds. However, redistribution is precisely how access policy functions. Access Funds ensure fee increases do not disproportionately exclude low-income, first-generation, and working students who represent a growing share of NSHE enrollment.

This discussion comes as tuition increases raise affordability concerns and federal student aid remains uncertain, including potential reductions to Pell Grant support. Weakening the primary mechanism designed to protect access for Nevada's most vulnerable students would

move the system in the opposite direction of its stated goals.

The existing policy is working as intended. It preserves opportunity, stabilizes aid capacity, and supports the Board's longstanding commitment to access and affordability. I respectfully urge the Board to maintain the current Student Access Fund structure.

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

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