

NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SAFETY AND THE PREVENTION OF GUN VIOLENCE ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES

February 29, 2024

WHEREAS, the Nevada Student Alliance acknowledges the profound impact of gun violence on college campuses and recognizes the tragic incident at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, on December 6, 2023, which claimed the lives of three esteemed faculty members: Dr. Patricia Navarro-Velez, Dr. Jerry Chang, and Dr. Naoko Takemaru, wounded three other individuals of those being one professor and two first responders, and left multiple students, faculty and staff suffering from panic attacks; and

WHEREAS, the victims of the UNLV shooting on December 6, 2023, were three faculty members of the university, identified as Dr. Patricia Navarro-Velez, a distinguished assistant professor of accounting; Dr. Jerry Chang, a respected professor of management and information systems; and Dr. Naoko Takemaru a dedicated associate professor of Japanese studies, all of whom were esteemed educators contributing significantly to the academic community; and

WHEREAS, it is deeply regrettable to note that each of the identified professors was a member of minority communities, further underscoring the impact gun violence has on marginalized communities; and

WHEREAS, every student has the right to pursue their education in a safe and secure environment, free from the threat of gun violence; and.

WHEREAS, commendation is warranted for the University Police - Southern Command Officers and first responders for their swift and urgent response time, arriving at the UNLV campus within seventy-eight seconds, undoubtedly preserving the safety of numerous students, faculty, and staff.

WHEREAS, the December 6, 2023, tragedy at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, underscores the need for proactive measures to prevent future occurrences and protect the wellbeing of students, faculty, and staff; and

WHEREAS, the Nevada Student Alliance is committed to advocating for the safety and wellbeing of all students within the state of Nevada;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE:

- 1. The Nevada Student Alliance strongly condemns gun violence on college campuses and calls for immediate and effective action to preserve the safety of students across the Nevada System of Higher Education.
- 2. The Nevada Student Alliance recognizes the various mental health and intervention services available to students, faculty, and staff at each NSHE institution, and encourages students to utilize these resources, while also calling for the allocation of resources to enhance campus security measures, including but not limited to, improved emergency response systems, the implementation of advanced security technologies, and encouraging collaboration between educational institutions, mental health professionals, and law enforcement agencies to address the mental health aspects contributing to gun violence and to provide adequate support.
- 3. The Nevada Student Alliance shall send this resolution to each member of the Nevada federal delegation in Congress, each member of the Nevada State Legislature, each member of the Board of Regents, each member of the Council of Presidents, the Governor, and the Chancellor to prioritize the issue of gun violence and safety on college campuses.
- 4. The Nevada Student Alliance encourages collaboration across NSHE with relevant stakeholders, including but not limited to DEI organizations, University Police Department, and the Chancellor's Ad Hoc Public Safety Committee.
- 5. The Nevada Student Alliance acknowledges and supports the work of the Chancellor's Ad Hoc Public Safety Committee and encourages the Chancellor to consider transitioning it to become a standing committee in the Nevada System of Higher Education.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Nevada Student Alliance hereby adopts this resolution on this 29th day of February, 2024, pressing the collective voice and concern of students within the Nevada System of Higher Education.

ATTEST
Suzanna Stankute, NSA Chair Lyvouwa M. Houth
Kevin Osorio Hernández, NSA Vice Chair Krist A DH 2
Boris Carpio Guerra, NSA Secretary