



**NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)
AGENDA**

November 30, 2017

7:15 a.m.

Student Union, Room 211
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas 89154

ROLL CALL: Ms. Kanani Espinoza, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA (NSA Chair)
Ms. Kimberly Tran, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA (NSA vice Chair)
Mr. Christopher Roys, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN (Secretary)
Ms. Alicia Contreras, Nevada State College, NSSA
Ms. Tania Covarrubias, Western Nevada College, ASWN
Mr. Sandesh Kannan, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA
Ms. Becky Linville, Great Basin College, SGA
Ms. Kathleen Rodrigues, Desert Research Institute, GRAD
Mr. Noah Teixeira, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN
Ms. Elizabeth Zuniga, College of Southern Nevada, ASCSN

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE AGENDA AND PUBLIC MEETING

NOTE: Below is an agenda of all items scheduled to be considered. Notification is hereby provided that items on the agenda may be taken out of the order presented, two or more agenda items may be combined for consideration, and an agenda item may be removed from the agenda or discussion relating to an item on the agenda may be delayed at any time.

In accordance with NRS 241.020(6), supporting materials that are submitted to the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Office of Academic and Student Affairs will be made available in advance of the meeting as follows: 1) from the NSHE Office of Academic and Student Affairs by calling Renée Davis at (775) 784-3447 or emailing her at renee_davis@nshe.nevada.edu; or, 2) by accessing the electronic version of the agenda posted on the NSA page of the NSHE website:

<http://www.nevada.edu/studentgov/>

In addition, a limited number of copies of any such supporting materials will be available at the meeting site.

Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate physically disabled persons attending the meeting. Please call the Academic & Student Affairs Office in advance at (775) 784-3443 or (775) 784-3447 so that arrangements may be made.

1. ROLL CALL

The NSA Secretary will take roll call of members and circulate a sign-in sheet for guests so their names may be recorded in the minutes.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT**INFORMATION**

Public comment will be taken during this agenda item. No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item until the matter is included on an agenda as an item on which action may be taken. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name. The NSA Chair may elect to allow additional public comment on a specific agenda item when that agenda item is being considered.

In accordance with Attorney General Opinion No. 00-047, as restated in the Attorney General's Open Meeting Law Manual, the NSA Chair may prohibit comment if the content of that comment is a topic that is not relevant to, or within the authority of, the NSA, or if the content is willfully disruptive of the meeting by being irrelevant, repetitious, slanderous, offensive, inflammatory, irrational or amounting to personal attacks or interfering with the rights of other speakers.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

Request is made for approval of the minutes for the NSA meeting held on November 17, 2017.

4. NSA NEWSLETTER**INFORMATION**

NSA Vice Chair Kimberly Tran will provide information to members on writing assignments, deadlines, and work accomplished to date on the NSA newsletter for 2017-18.

5. NSA CHAIR'S REPORT**INFORMATION**

NSA Chair Kanani Espinoza will discuss with members the contents of the chair's report and ask for any additional information that is relevant to add to the report that will be given later this morning at the Board of Regents meeting (Thursday, November 30, 2017).

6. RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM (PSLF)**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

NSA Chair Kanani Espinoza will discuss, for possible approval by the Alliance, a resolution in support of Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF).

7. RESOLUTION ON CONDEMNING BIGOTRY ON CAMPUSES IN NEVADA**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

NSA Chair Kanani Espinoza will discuss, for possible approval by the Alliance, a resolution condemning violence, hatred, and bigotry on all college campuses in Nevada.

**8. RESOLUTION OPPOSING HOUSE RESOLUTION 1 (H.R. 1)
OF THE 115TH CONGRESS FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

UNLV CSUN President Christopher Roys requests the discussion and approval of a resolution condemning the passage of House Resolution 1 in the House of Representatives of the 115th Congress and for the United States Senate to reject any similar legislation.

**9. DISCUSSION ON REVISIONS TO THE NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE
CONSTITUTION INFORMATION**

NSA Chair Kanani Espinoza will lead an open discussion on the constitutionally-defined roles and duties of each member of the Nevada Student Alliance.

10. DISCUSSION ON SYSTEM-WIDE INITIATIVES & GOALS INFORMATION

NSA Chair Kanani Espinoza will continue an open discussion on goals the student body presidents have for their terms of office and possible system-wide initiatives and goals that the Alliance may wish to adopt. Discussion will include: an NSHE Smoking Policy and a Natural Disaster Plan.

11. NSA MEETING SCHEDULE FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

NSA Chair Kanani Espinoza requests that members consider the established 2018 meeting schedule and which dates, if any, should be eliminated. In addition, the discussion may include creating a new standard meeting schedule for planning purposes for future years.

12. MEMBER REPORTS INFORMATION

NSA members will each be invited to provide an update on current and planned events, initiatives and other activities or actions taking place on their campuses and within their student government organizations.

13. NEW BUSINESS INFORMATION

Items for consideration at future meetings may be suggested. Any discussion of an item under “New Business” is limited to description and clarification of the subject matter of the item, which may include the reasons for the request.

14. PUBLIC COMMENT INFORMATION

Public comment will be taken during this agenda item. No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item until the matter is included on an agenda as an item on which action may be taken. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name. The NSA Chair may elect to allow additional public comment on a specific agenda item when that agenda item is being considered.

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Posted in accordance with Nevada Open Meeting Law (NRS Ch. 241) at the following locations:

CSN, Building D, 1st Floor, 6375 W. Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89146-1124

DRI, Maxey Building, 2215 Raggio Parkway, Reno, NV 89512-1095

DRI, Southern Nevada Science Center, 755 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89119-7363

GBC, Berg Hall, 1500 College Parkway, Elko, NV 89801

NSC, 1st Floor, Rogers Student Center, 1021 Paradise Hills Drive, Henderson NV 89002

TMCC, Red Mountain Building (RDMT 200) 7000 Dandini Blvd. Reno, NV 89512

UNLV, Flora Dungan Humanities 9 (FDH), 1st and 7th Floors, 4505 Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89154-1001

UNR, Clark Administration, University of Nevada, Reno, Reno, NV 89557

WNC, Bristlecone Building Lobby, 2201 W. College Parkway, Carson City, NV 89703

System Administration, 4300 S. Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89119-7530

System Administration, 2601 Enterprise Road, Reno, NV 89512

Nevada Public Notice Website - <https://notice.nv.gov>

NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PUBLIC SERVICE LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Nevada Student Alliance is composed of the higher education institutions within the Nevada System of Higher Education, which are: University of Nevada, Reno, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada State College, College of Southern Nevada, Truckee Meadows Community College, Western Nevada College, Great Basin College, and the Desert Research Institution; AND

WHEREAS, the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program forgives the remaining balance on your Direct Loans after you have made 120 qualifying monthly payments¹ and working for a qualified employer; AND

WHEREAS, the status for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program is unknown for the future; AND

WHEREAS; the default rate in the last three years has risen and is currently at 11.5 percent²; AND

WHEREAS; the average student loans in Nevada are increasing and approaching \$30,000³;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Nevada Student Alliance, on behalf of the undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in the Nevada System of Higher education:

- Urges the President, elected officials of the U.S. Congress and Senate, members of the Nevada State Legislature, the NSHE Board of Regents and the university faculty to support and affirm efforts related to maintaining the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program; AND
- Urges the Board of Regents to maintain reasonable tuition and fee costs for students to avoid accruing large amounts of student loans.

For sources, see supplemental attachment

¹**Federal Student Aid; an Office of the U.S. Department of Education**

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/repay-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/public-service>

²**U.S. Department of Education**

<https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-department-education-releases-national-student-loan-fy-2014-cohort-default-rate>

³**Nevada Public Radio**

<https://knpr.org/knpr/2014-12/average-student-loan-debt-reaches-21666-nevada>

NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING BIGOTRY AND HATRED ON ANY HIGHER EDUCATION CAMPUS IN NEVADA

WHEREAS, the Nevada Student Alliance is composed of the higher education institutions within the Nevada System of Higher Education, which are: University of Nevada, Reno, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada State College, College of Southern Nevada, Truckee Meadows Community College, Western Nevada College, Great Basin College, and the Desert Research Institution; AND

WHEREAS, the “Unite the Right” protest in Charlottesville, Virginia on August 12, 2017 resulted in one death; AND

WHEREAS, the protest symbolized violence, hatred, and bigotry; AND

WHEREAS; one male in attendance was linked to a school in Nevada; AND

WHEREAS; over 50% of students in NSHE identify as Non-White¹;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Nevada Student Alliance, on behalf of the undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in the Nevada System of Higher education:

- Denounces all acts of bigotry and violence in the United States; AND
- Urges all NSHE institutions to remain an open campus with support for all students who identify as a minority; AND
- Urges NSHE and the Board of Regents to continue to expand and grow our ethnicity and diversity numbers in regards to enrollment; AND
- Urges the organizations that make up the NSA will continue to fight for and protect its students from violations of basic human rights and uphold the laws of the United States.

For sources, see supplemental attachment

¹ Nevada System of Higher Education, NSHE Fall Enrollment
<https://www.nevada.edu/ir/dashboard.php>



**NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE
NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE PASSAGE OF HOUSE RESOLUTION 1 FOR THE 115TH
CONGRESS
(2017-2018)**

WHEREAS, the Nevada Student Alliance represents all 100,000+ students in the Nevada System of Higher Education; and

WHEREAS, the Nevada Student Alliance is comprised of elected representatives from all NSHE institutions whose numerous responsibilities include voicing and lobbying student concerns to their elected officials in local, state, and federal levels; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of IRS code Section 117 (d) would negatively impact the students of NSHE by taking away educational institutions' ability to provide tuition reductions free of taxable income. Furthermore, the elimination of this section would impede tax-free tuition waivers to graduate teaching and research assistants; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of IRS code Section 127 would adversely impact the students of NSHE by eliminating employers the option to fund tax exempt tuition assistance to their employees up to \$5,250 annually; and

WHEREAS, the amending of IRS code Section 103 and Section 141 would negatively impact the students of NSHE by taking away the NSHE institutions ability to acquire tax-exempt bonds to build, renovate, and add to existing infrastructure to enhance the college experience of the students of NSHE,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Nevada Student Alliance, on behalf of the 100,00+ students of NSHE:

- Urges elected student representatives of the Nevada System of Higher Education to actively advocate in Opposition to H.R. 1; AND
- Urges members of Nevada Student Alliance to actively Oppose H.R. 1 to ensure the well-being, and financial security of the students of the Nevada System of Higher Education, AND
- Urges students in the Nevada System of Higher Education to take note of the Congressional representatives who Support H.R. 1 to act as informed voters in future elections; AND
- Urges our community leaders, businesses, local and state elected officials to lobby our Congressional representatives to Oppose the passing of H.R. 1; AND

- Urges our Congressional representatives to Oppose the passing of H.R. 1 or similar legislation brought forward to the United States Senate.
- Urges the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents to publicly oppose the passage of H.R. 1 and to denounce similar legislation in the United States Senate.

ADOPTED by the Nevada Student Alliance on this 30th day of November 2017.

Attest:



Kanani Espinoza, NSA Chair

Kimberly Tran, NSA Vice-Chair

Christopher Roys, NSA Secretary



CONSTITUTION OF THE NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE

Effective March 25, 2016

ARTICLE 1 - The Association

Section 100 This association shall be named the Nevada Student Alliance (NSA).

Section 110 The purpose of the Nevada Student Alliance shall be:

110.1 To promote, foster, advance, represent, and protect the interests and welfare of the students of the Nevada System of Higher Education;

110.2 To give the students of the Nevada System of Higher Education a unified voice before all systems and legislative bodies;

110.3 To aid in the enactment of legislation for the common good, as well as the good of students; and

110.4 To aid member schools' student governments in the attainment of their goals without undue interference in their internal affairs.

ARTICLE 2 - Membership

Section 200 Each of the ten student governments (undergraduate and graduate) in the Nevada System of Higher Education (University of Nevada, Reno, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada State College at Henderson, College of Southern Nevada, Truckee Meadows Community College, Western Nevada College, Great Basin College and Desert Research Institute) shall be members of the Nevada Student Alliance.

Section 210 Each Student Government Organization shall have one voting representative on the Nevada Student Alliance.

210.1 Each president of the student governments shall act as or appoint a voting representative to serve on the Alliance.

210.2 Voting representatives shall be the only persons eligible for the positions of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary.

Section 220 Each president of the student governments may appoint an ex-officio representative to serve on the Alliance.

220.1 Officers from the member student governments shall be the only persons eligible to serve as ex-officio representatives.

Section 230 A representative serves one full year, to correspond with his or her respective institutional term of office, unless the representative resigns, is impeached and removed, or is removed by their respective student legislative body.

ARTICLE 3 –Meetings, Officers and Voting

Section 300 Meetings of the Nevada Student Alliance may coincide with meetings of the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents and shall be held in compliance with Chapter 241 of the Nevada Revised Statutes.

300.1 A quorum shall consist of a simple majority of the members of the Nevada Student Alliance.

In case of a member abstaining from voting, the necessary quorum and number of votes necessary to act shall be reduced as though the member abstaining were not a member of the body.

300.2 Any decision by the Alliance requires approval from at least a simple majority of voting members present, unless otherwise stipulated in this constitution.

300.3 The meetings will be facilitated by a chairperson. The chair shall be elected by at least two-thirds of the Alliance's voting representatives at the first meeting.

300.31 The chair will serve one term consisting of one year, to correspond with his or her respective institutional term of office.

300.32 No member organization shall hold consecutive terms as the chair.

300.33 The chair and vice-chair cannot be from the same member institution.

300.4 The chairperson has the following rights and duties:

300.41 The right to vote;

300.42 The responsibility for preparing agendas and submitting minutes for the next meeting;

300.43 The responsibility to run each meeting according to the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order; and

- 300.44 The responsibility to oversee outreach efforts of the Alliance, including social media, or delegate an Alliance member to do so.
- 300.5 A vice-chairperson shall be elected by at least two thirds of the Alliance's voting representatives at the first meeting.
- 300.51 The vice-chair will serve one term consisting of one year, to correspond with his or her respective institutional term of office.
- 300.52 No member organization shall hold consecutive terms as the vice-chair.
- 300.53 The chair and vice-chair cannot be from the same member institution.
- 300.6 The vice-chair shall have the following rights and duties:
- 300.61 The right to vote;
- 300.62 The responsibility to fill the position and duties of the chair in the event of said chair's absence, resignation or impeachment; and
- 300.63 The responsibility to organize, compile and publish the NSA Newsletter.
- 300.7 A secretary shall be elected by at least two thirds of the Alliance's voting representatives at the first meeting.
- 300.71 The secretary will serve one term consisting of one year, to correspond with his or her respective institutional term of office.
- 300.72 No member organization shall hold consecutive terms as the secretary.
- 300.8 The secretary shall have the following rights and duties:
- 300.81 The right to vote;
- 300.82 The responsibility to take minutes at every meeting and to ensure that the minutes are in a format ready for distribution with the agenda for the subsequent meeting; and

300.83 If not able to attend a meeting, the responsibility to secure a substitute from the Alliance membership to take notes at that meeting and to obtain said notes and ensure that the minutes are in a format ready for distribution with the agenda for the subsequent meeting.

Section 310 Provisions for Proxy

310.1 Each representative shall have the right to send a proxy in his/her place if unable to attend. This person shall have the right to vote.

310.11 Any member of the Alliance wishing to exercise the right to a proxy shall, in advance of the meeting, notify the Alliance Chair in writing of the person designated to be his/her proxy and for which specific meeting. At commencement of the meeting the Chair shall, on the record, introduce the proxy by name and indicate for which member he/she is acting as proxy.

ARTICLE 4 - Amendment

Section 400 Amendment of this constitution shall require the following procedures:

400.1 Any voting member may propose a revision to the Nevada Student Alliance Constitution.

400.11 A constitutional revision shall be introduced initially at a meeting of the Alliance as an information item.

- i. A final draft of the amended constitution shall be transmitted to each member of the Alliance.
- ii. Each member of the Alliance shall distribute a final draft of the amended constitution to his/her student legislative body.

400.2 Action on said revision may not be taken by the Alliance earlier than at the immediately subsequent meeting. A two-thirds vote of all voting members of the Alliance is necessary for approval of any amendment of this constitution.

400.3 Once approved by the Alliance, any amendment to this constitution shall not be effective until approved by the Chancellor of the Nevada System of Higher Education.

ARTICLE 5 - Impeachment

Section 500 Impeachment and removal of any member shall require the following procedures:

- 500.1 Any voting member of the Alliance, including the chair and vice-chair, shall have the right to bring impeachment charges against a fellow voting member for violation of the NSHE Code of Conduct, gross negligence of duties, and/or malfeasance of any kind.

In order for impeachment proceedings to commence, each Alliance member must receive a brief report from the Chair explicitly stating the alleged wrongful actions on the part of the member in question. The member in question has the right to submit a rebuttal report. Both reports must be distributed to the full Alliance prior to impeaching proceedings

Impeachment proceedings shall take place during the next scheduled meeting. The member in question has the right to be present for all discussions and will be given an opportunity to address the Alliance.

- 500.2 A two-thirds vote of the Alliance members shall be required to impeach the representative.
- 500.3 In the event of an affirmative two-thirds vote for impeachment, the impeached member shall be immediately removed from office.

Nevada Student Alliance Meeting Dates for 2018

Revised 10/9/17

Board of Regents – In Person Meetings

NSA meets twice on Thursdays at regular Board meetings, morning *and* evening. The Thursday morning start time may vary, but is normally 7:00 a.m. or 7:15 a.m. This meeting is an NSA Business meeting. The Thursday evening meeting will start at 5:00 p.m. This meeting is attended by NSA members, Officers of the Board of Regents, and the NSHE Chancellor. All NSA members are expected to attend in person or appoint a proxy to attend on his or her behalf. Please follow the established NSA proxy communication protocol in advance of the meeting (see page 2 of this document for details).

- March 1-2, 2018 / Desert Research Institute, Las Vegas
- June 7-8, 2018/ Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno
- September 6-7, 2018 / University of Nevada, Reno
- November 29-30, 2018 / University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Chancellor / NSA - Videoconferences

Video meetings with the Chancellor generally occur the second Friday of the month beginning at 9:00 a.m., followed by an NSA business meeting that ends no later than 11:00 a.m. See specific dates and locations below. In the event a meeting is cancelled or changed, updates are emailed to the Student Body Presidents and posted on the NSA web page (scroll to bottom of the page for updates to this meeting dates document):

<http://system.nevada.edu/Nshe/index.cfm/administration/academics-student-affairs/students/student-government/>

- January 12, 2018
- February 9, 2018
- April 13, 2018
- May 11, 2018
- July 13, 2018
- August 10, 2018
- October 12, 2018
- November 9, 2018

These video meetings will be held in the following rooms, unless a conflict arises and the room is changed. Please check the NSA agendas prior to the meeting to confirm location. Also, *please arrive early* to ensure access to rooms that may be locked and to verify that video equipment is operational.

CSN – Cheyenne 2638

GBC – Elko: LCSL 122; Battle Mountain: BM 4

NSC – RSC 351

WNC – Dini 105

System Office – Las Vegas 101 (including UNLV)

System Office – Reno 134 (including UNR & TMCC)

**Nevada Student Alliance
Meeting Dates for 2018**

Revised 10/9/17

Procedures for Proxy

Per the NSA Constitution, NSA members must notify the NSA Chair in writing in advance of the meeting. Members are asked to email this information to the NSA Chair using the following wording:

I, [VOTING MEMBER'S NAME], [TITLE] of the Nevada Student Alliance, hereby designate as my proxy [NAME OF STUDENT TO WHOM YOU ARE GIVING YOUR PROXY], to cast my vote(s) at the Nevada Student Alliance Meeting taking place on [DATE]. - [SIGNATURE & DATE]

Please also copy the NSA Secretary as well as the Director of Student Affairs, who serves as the System liaison to NSA (contact information below).

Note: If you have questions about any information contained in this document, please contact NSHE Director of Student Affairs Renée Davis at 775-784-3447 or rdavis@nshe.nevada.edu.