



NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)

AGENDA

February 14, 2020

9:00 a.m.

**Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE)
Reno System Administration Building, Room 134
2601 Enterprise Road
Reno, NV 89512**

Video Conference Connection from the Meeting Site to:

Carson City – WNC Dini 105

Elko – GBC LCSL 129 S.R.

Henderson – NSC RSC 351

Las Vegas – CSN North Las Vegas Bldg C 2638 and NSHE System Admin 101

ROLL CALL: **Nicola Opfer, Nevada State College, NSSA (NSA Chair)**
 Anthony Martinez, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN (NSA Vice Chair)
 Tamara Guinn, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA (NSA Secretary)
 Gabrielle Clark, Western Nevada College, ASWN
 Melanie Dodson, Great Basin College, SGA
 Daniel Gutierrez, College of Southern Nevada, ASCSN
 Stephanie Molina, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA
 Hannah Patenaude, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN
 Alexandra Patri, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA

Office Vacant, Desert Research Institute, GRAD

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 Terina Caserto at (775) 784-3442 or emailing her at tcaserto@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) 784-3442 or (775) 784-3225 so that arrangements may be made.

1. ROLL CALL

NSA Secretary Tamara Guinn will take roll call of members and ask guests at each of the video sites to identify themselves so their names may be recorded in the minutes.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

INFORMATION ONLY

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 (April 27, 2001), 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 two NSA meetings held on December 5, 2019.

4. DISCUSSION WITH CHANCELLOR

INFORMATION ONLY

NSA members will meet with Chancellor Thom Reilly. They will discuss aspirations and concerns for each institution and the higher education system.

5. UPDATE FROM STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE ON THE NSHE TASK FORCE ON PERFORMANCE PAY ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT

INFORMATION ONLY

At the September 5-6, 2019 Board of Regents meeting Chancellor Thom Reilly received approval to create the ad hoc NSHE Task Force on Performance Pay Administration and Support. The Task Force is charged with reviewing and making recommendations on funding sources for performance pay in the context of affordability in an effort to determine the potential impact on student fees should the state continue not funding performance increases for academic and administrative faculty. Task Force membership is comprised of wide representation from the System and State, including three student body members representing each institutional sector: Nathaniel Waugh (universities), Robert Lemus (state college), and Andrew Sierra (community

colleges). At this meeting, one of the student representatives will give an update of the Task Force.

6. SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS ON CAMPUS

INFORMATION ONLY

NSA Chair Nicola Opfer will solicit feedback and updates from NSA members on environmental sustainability needs and efforts at each of the NSHE campuses.

**7. STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATIONS
AND UNDOCUMENTED STUDENT PARTICIPATION**

INFORMATION ONLY

Chair Nicola Opfer will solicit feedback from NSA members regarding the opportunities and challenges on their campuses for undocumented students wanting to participate in student government associations.

8. MEMBER REPORTS

INFORMATION ONLY

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.

9. NEW BUSINESS

INFORMATION ONLY

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.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

INFORMATION ONLY

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 STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)
MINUTES
December 5, 2019
8:00 a.m.
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Student Union, Room 211
4505 S. Maryland Parkway
Las Vegas, NV

MEETING IS CALLED TO ORDER AT **8:07 AM** BY NICOLA OPFER, NSA CHAIR

- 1. ROLL CALL:** Nicola Opfer, Nevada State College, NSSA (NSA Chair) **PRESENT**
Anthony Martinez, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN (NSA Vice Chair) **PRESENT**
Tamara Guinn, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA (NSA Secretary) **PRESENT**
Melanie Dodson, Great Basin College, SGA **PRESENT**
Daniel Gutierrez, College of Southern Nevada, ASCSN **PRESENT**
Gabrielle Clark, Western Nevada College, ASWN (new representative) **PRESENT**
Hannah Patenaude, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN **PRESENT**
Alexandra Patri, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA **PRESENT**
Stephanie Molina, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA **ABSENT**

Office Vacant, Desert Research Institute, GRAD

Guests:

Terina Caserto, NSHE
Renee Davis, NSHE
Valeria Saborio, SGA, TMCC
Heather Rikalo, GBC

A QUORUM OF MEMBERS IS PRESENT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING

- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT**
No public comment.

INFORMATION

- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Motion is made by Gutierrez for approval of the minutes for the NSA meeting held on November 8, 2019. Seconded by Martinez. No discussion. Minutes were approved unanimously.

- 4. WELCOME TO NEW NSA MEMBERS**

INFORMATION

Opfer welcomed Clark to NSA as the new representative for Western Nevada College. NSA members introduced themselves and welcomed Clark.

5. STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATIONS AND UNDOCUMENTED STUDENT PARTICIPATION

INFORMATION

Opfer introduced the discussion of compensation and participation of undocumented students in our respective student governments. Opfer expressed this is a statewide issue that impacts a fairly large number of students on our campuses. Opfer asked NSA members whether they have been having conversations about this on respective campuses, whether there is awareness on the issue, and where everyone may be on the issue.

Gutierrez responded that CSN has had awareness of the issue for a while. Gutierrez discussed they have one student that is very involved and happily involved despite not receiving compensation. Discussions have been had regarding the potential of amendments to bylaws or scholarships to compensate undocumented students. CSN is trying to arrange for a scholarship for students that would pay them for their hours tracked, perhaps 4 times a year. There would be logistical challenges associated with this process due to the oversight of the process. Another concern is availability to students. This would not only be helpful to undocumented students but those that are FASFA ineligible as well. Gutierrez is working with administration to implement a scholarship for these students.

Patenaude expressed unawareness to this issue until it was brought up at the past NSA meeting. She expressed, yes they do experience this issue and it is a much larger issue than just in Southern Nevada. She has not had students specifically come forward, so it is hard to reach students and understand the need. She has not made progress on solutions, but conversations are now being had and this is a priority for us now.

Patri posed a question to Gutierrez asking whether this will be a future agenda item for the Board of Regents.

Gutierrez responded that yes possibly. We may need to talk more about this at NSA. Perhaps it would be easier for those in student government than across the board to student employees.

Opfer mentioned that BOR is very interested in helping and there are legislative concerns that make paying undocumented students challenging. This is a federal issue, not just a state issue. Opfer has had discussions with the Chancellor, Chair Geddes, and Regents regarding the issue and there is support for addressing these concerns.

Martinez mentioned that UNR has two designated individuals to work on matters concerning undocumented students. Martinez further mentioned that there may have been an NSHE task force at one point.

Opfer mentioned it may have been a roundtable discussion rather than a task force.

Martinez asked if we could ask them what has been suggested or implemented to help undocumented students so far. Maybe they came up with solutions during that process.

Opfer mentioned that it was a lot of ideas that were being thrown around. Perhaps offering scholarships however there are legal challenges with these potential processes. The challenge is finding processes that work that do not cause more harm to students.

Gutierrez asked if we will be discussing this in the afternoon NSA meeting? Also, he mentioned the importance of verbiage and language used.

Opfer discussed how NSSA has established a fund that helps undocumented/DACA students pay for school.

Clark expressed importance of supporting students that want to give back to the community through student government. This is also beneficial to FASFA ineligible students.

Gutierrez mentioned how student government funds open a second avenue of funding opportunity for FASFA ineligible students.

Opfer has had undocumented students approach NSSA about joining and serving. An option they have considered implementing is a Student Life Advisory Board to assist student government.

Patenaude mentioned that since this is a federal issue this is beyond our scope of being able to solve, but we have the ability at our levels to help alleviate costs. Also having an NSA resolution to support Undocumented/DACA student involvement.

Guinn mentioned the issue could also impact international students as well that are limited by financial aid and how much they can earn while attending school in the U.S. She mentioned that GSA actually supports council members through “awards” rather than student pay or compensation that is paid out twice per year through student fees.

Opfer asked for interest in having a resolution and moving the concern forward.

6. MEMBER REPORTS

INFORMATION

Patri – at TMCC she is working on an open educational resources initiative and spreading the word that this is what students want to faculty. Senators have purchased biodegradable materials to be used at meetings and reusable items to be distributed at meetings and looking at replacing cups with reusable cups. She is also working on establishing a universal landing page for web courses so it would be the same for everyone through Canvas.

Dodson – GBC is working to try and get elementary and high school students involved in student government. With many online students it is challenging to get students involved in student government. Increased involvement by senators this year and increasing outreach. Working to promote Native American student support on campus.

Clark – WNC has a Fallon campus that we are working well with and establishing a relationship. Tree raffle in Fallon and Toys for Tots in Carson. WNC is working on outreach and getting the WNC name out.

Guinn – UNR GSA Move It challenge was very successful with 52 active participants. February UNR will be hosting the NAGPS conference. Mental health awareness will be a focus in the spring. A self-defense class will be offered to female council members. More service outreach to graduate students.

Gutierrez – Student Union was officially named after Tyrone Thompson. It was a very successful event. Open Education Resources (OER) has been a matter of getting professors to use it. “Students First” campaign for those professors helping students through OER. Working to improve voter registration and voting across students. All three multipurpose rooms will be available soon. CSN is working to conduct trainings with orientations such as an active shooter training. CSN is conducting various drives for items such as hygiene or pet supply drive that have been very successful. Entering into negotiations as a multi-campus organization with a centralized location that is built out to other locations. Working to launch a speaker series in February, 2020.

Martinez – RFP for the Wolf Shop Bookstore. Seeking any recommendations on what you are selling and what is successful or not at your bookstores going forward with an outside vendor. \$20,000 goal for food pantry donations. We are entering into a Presidential search and open to advice and suggestions. We are also looking to revise elections process and open to suggestions.

Patenaude – First time food drive for the UNLV food pantry was very successful. 2300 units of things collected. President’s Advisory Council has been split into Affinity Groups and Student, Staff working groups that are far more productive than previous conversations. Faculty Pay Task force is not going well, and she encouraged participation in public comment at upcoming meetings to help avoid student fees being implemented. Received great feedback from surveys that have sent out such as transportation issues, campus planning, and infrastructure for budget planning.

Opfer – working to get free menstrual products on campus. Food pantry was able to feed 20 full Thanksgiving dinners to students. Working on undocumented issue and some other concerns.

7. NSA CHAIR’S REPORT

INFORMATION

In the chair’s report she will mention FASFA ineligible, international and undocumented students.

8. NEW BUSINESS

INFORMATION

No new business.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

INFORMATION

No public comment.

OPFER ADJOURNED MEETING AT 8:50 AM



NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)

MINUTES

December 5, 2019

5:00 p.m.

Time Approximate: this meeting may begin earlier than 5:00 p.m. upon recess of the Board of Regents meeting.

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Student Union, Room 213

4505 S. Maryland Parkway

Las Vegas, NV

MEETING IS CALLED TO ORDER AT **5:01 PM** BY NICOLA OPFER, NSA CHAIR

- 1. ROLL CALL:** Nicola Opfer, Nevada State College, NSSA (NSA Chair) **PRESENT**
Anthony Martinez, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN (NSA Vice Chair) **PRESENT**
Tamara Guinn, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA (NSA Secretary) **PRESENT**
Melanie Dodson, Great Basin College, SGA **PRESENT**
Daniel Gutierrez, College of Southern Nevada, ASCSN **PRESENT**
Gabrielle Clark, Western Nevada College, ASWN (new representative) **PRESENT**
Hannah Patenaude, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN **PRESENT**
Alexandra Patri, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA **PRESENT**
Stephanie Molina, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA **PRESENT**

Office Vacant, Desert Research Institute, GRAD

Guests:

Terina Caserto, NSHE
Renee Davis, NSHE
Mark Doubrava – BOR Vice Chair
Michael Flores - NSHE
Jason Geddes – BOR Chair
Dean Gould – BOR Chief of Staff
Thom Reilly – Chancellor
Valeria Saborio, SGA, TMCC

A QUORUM OF MEMBERS IS PRESENT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

INFORMATION

No public comment.

3. DISCUSSION WITH BOARD OFFICERS AND CHANCELLOR

INFORMATION

Opfer opened the discussion with the topic of undocumented students, DACA students, and international students and asked where we are at on the issue and how can NSA help?

Reilly mentioned that BOR had been part of larger federal conversations, a brief with supreme court, and also conversations with institution Presidents to work together to see how we can help undocumented and DACA students with financial aid and support as a system. Working with the Presidents, each institution will have a point of contact that will be posted on the web for undocumented and DACA students to help them navigate college. The importance is showing support and coming together within the system to address the issue.

Opfer asked where information for the point of contact will be for students. Where will we be able to direct students?

Reilly responded it is in process, but it will be put on the web and also made accessible to the K-12 system. Once the list is established it will be shared widely.

Opfer would like easy access for support.

Reilly wants to ensure there is broad social support and counselors available to support these students. We have access to the numbers and the numbers are large. We need committed people in these positions to be able to identify these students and help them.

Clark asked what it means for us to have access to numbers, do we know exactly who they are and are there implications for their safety?

Patenaude asked how we identify undocumented students because if they seek financial aid they may bring unwanted attention.

Reilly mentioned that UNR has contact through Title IX which remains confidential to students. Since we don't collect this information from our students, we don't have exact numbers. A challenge is how do we address the issue when we don't know what we are really dealing with because we don't ask for the information.

Flores mentioned the legislature wants to open up the Nevada Promise scholarship to undocumented students and have developed a work around to protect confidentiality. CSN had a scholarship through student government. If you create it, they will come. Undocumented students as early as high school do not receive supports for higher education. Education of counselors and access to resources, differentiating what DACA is. The growing challenge here is undocumented students' participation in student government.

Patenaude expressed confusion about whether it is students being unable to participate in student government at all or whether it was that they just weren't getting compensated.

Gutierrez clarified that they can participate but just will not be compensated. They can volunteer but not get paid. CSN has been working on an idea to see if they can get around using workday, perhaps a modified stipend. The issue is how widely will it be available and how to attract the right people for the stipend.

Reilly mentioned that this must be easier, and we need to meet with CSN President to address the issue.

Opfer expressed interest in attending the conversation as well. At NSC there have been concerns regarding audit of stipends versus pay for student government that need to be addressed. In response to serving on student government, anyone can attend per Nevada Open Meeting Law but may not be able to serve in a full capacity without being compensated.

Reilly mentioned that since the Presidents are aware we should work together to formulate solutions and get the ball rolling. There has also been discussion regarding instate or out of state tuition for undocumented students.

Martinez mentioned UNR has a coordinator and UNLV has one individual that works with student government to complete documents for students to facilitate their participation.

Patenaude opened the conversation about lighting on UNLV campus. Director Garcia has been involved and safety issues are being addressed but there is still a concern. CSUN has paid for some improvement, but more improvement is still needed, especially on the north side. This should be a priority for UNLV.

Reilly asked if there is a plan in place?

Patenaude and Chief of Staff identified several places that were of immediate concern. This will also be done with Director Garcia.

Opfer expressed interest in hearing student voices and concern on each campus. Perhaps this will be a new business item on future NSA agenda.

Dodson discussed how students from UNR and GBC sat in on the Vice President's Council and heard discussions regarding Native American retention and attendance at college. Working with leaders to address tuition concerns and perhaps a lower tuition for Nevada Tribe students with the large number of campuses on Ancestral land. Dodson asked what happened to the tuition waiver or discount that used to exist, or did something exist?

Geddes responded that nothing has been in place that he knows of since 2006.

Davis responded that there is Grant in Aid available for Native American Students. There are campus options with institutional/state funds depending on budget.

Michael Flores asked what other types of aid may be available? We will follow up.

Reilly mentioned that he will look into the issue and get back to NSA.

Patri opened the discussion regarding Open Education Resources. Do the board members remember this topic being brought to BOR?

Davis mentioned that NSA did pass a resolution on OER. There has been activity on and off but talking with faculty is key. The BOR does not direct faculty as to what resources they need to use.

Geddes supports the promotion of using OER on campuses. There are so many resources available, yet professors require certain books so hopefully a balance can be found with free resources.

Patri mentioned there have been 15 professors at TMCC that have been successful. Perhaps incentivizing and rewarding OER use.

Opfer mentioned NSC has a digital library and promoted e-versions of textbooks. She will share the information with NSA members.

Opfer posed a concern about the Faculty Pay Performance Task Force regarding the very real option of student fees being used.

Gutierrez expressed concern regarding student fees increasing.

Geddes discussed how the funding formula currently supports faculty salaries through a pooled fund of student fees.

Guinn asked for clarification as to whether it would be a new fee or just reallocation of current monies being collected.

Geddes said he does not know, and more would be understood after the next meeting of the task force.

Patenaude expressed concern that if there is a new fee that is not okay. It is not the fault of the Regents or NSHE, but we need to find a better solution than student fees.

Geddes discussed how faculty merit pay has been a concern for years and how legislature have continually not supported merit pay. This is an ongoing problem because legislators believe that faculty professors make too much money. More funds should go to K-12 system.

Flores responded that support has been for State employees, classified employees, but not for faculty. There is upset because of previous fights regarding faculty that may have previously not gone well or been received well.

Clark asked how we reframe and emphasize the impact faculty have on students and supporting students K-12 and K-NSHE. Do students need to go? Have students gone?

Flores responded that yes students have and it is very helpful but this is an issue of perception of legislators.

Geddes responded the issue is quantitative rather than qualitative and gave an overview of social support systems that receive State funds and higher education is on the lower end of priority.

Patenaude asked if we move forward with a new fee will that send a positive or negative message to the legislature.

Open discussion that it sets a precedent. Overall concern was expressed that it could impact student numbers at institutions and make it more cost prohibitive to attend.

Flores appreciates the perspectives but with every legislative session funding concern for salaries are not an open issue. Allocations are just not there for merit increase. He encouraged students to speak to the Legislators. The day at the legislature was successful and contributed to overall 11% increase we received. Also, speaking at BOR meetings is impactful.

Geddes expressed that student voices and student presence at Legislature does have an impact.

Patenaude and Opfer expressed appreciation for BOR members openness and honesty on these issues.

4. NEW BUSINESS

INFORMATION

Martinez proposed a resolution regarding faculty pay increase be on future agenda. NSA members agreed to the item.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

INFORMATION

No public comment.

OPFER ADJOURNED MEETING AT 5:52 PM