

### **NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)**

## AGENDA

#### **DECEMBER 4, 2024**

7:00 a.m.

## University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Student Union, Room 213 4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas

#### **MEMBERS:**

Kevin Osorio Hernández, Nevada State University, NSSA (Chair) Dawson Deal, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN (Vice Chair) Janeth Vences-Balvas, College of Southern Nevada, ASCSN (Secretary) Tania Akter, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA Lisha Allison, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA Allister Dias, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN Teresa Marie, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA Miguel Sison, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUNSOM Allison VanHolder, Great Basin College, SGA Catalina Wilson, Western Nevada College, ASWN 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.

The agenda and any supporting material, including materials submitted after the posting of this agenda but before the meeting, may be accessed on the Internet by visiting the NSA page of the NSHE website: <a href="https://nshe.nevada.edu/system-administration/departments/asa/students/nevada-student-alliance/">https://nshe.nevada.edu/system-administration/departments/asa/students/nevada-student-alliance/</a>, or by calling Terina Caserto in the NSHE Office of Academic and Student Affairs at (775) 784-3442, or emailing her at <a href="teaserto@nshe.nevada.edu">teaserto@nshe.nevada.edu</a>. Any supporting materials provided to members of the NSA at the meeting will be posted to the NSA website within 24 hours after the conclusion of the meeting.

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 so that arrangements may be made.

### 1. ROLL CALL

Roll call of members and any persons serving as a proxy for a member will be taken.

*Estimated Time: 5 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 two 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. Members of the public may attend the meeting and provide public comment.

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.

Estimated Time: 5 minutes

## **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

## **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

Request is made for the approval of the minutes for the NSA meeting held on November 8, 2024.

*Estimated Time: 5 minutes* 

## 4. UPDATE ON PROPOSED <u>INFORMATION ONLY</u> *NSHE PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES MANUAL* PROVISION FOR STUDENT GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES

The NSA will discuss an update on the proposed *NSHE Procedures and Guidelines Manual* provision for student government guidelines that was presented at the November 8, 2024, NSA meeting. The proposal explains the relationship between student government associations and the administration of the System, as well as the relationship between student government positions and their respective institutions. NSA members may discuss and provide feedback to the draft proposal. (*Ref. NSA-4*)

Estimated Time: 10 minutes

## 5. NSA RESOLUTION SUPPORTING <u>FOR POSSIBLE ACTION</u> THE CONTINUATION OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS STANDING COMMITTEE ON INCLUSION, DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND ACCESS (IDEA)

NSA Chair will facilitate a discussion on a proposed NSA Resolution supporting the continuation of the NSHE Board of Regents' Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Committee. The proposed resolution was first presented at the November 8, 2024, NSA meeting. NSA members may discuss and provide feedback to the proposal. The proposed resolution may be approved at this meeting or returned at a subsequent meeting for formal action by the NSA. (*Ref. NSA – 5*)

Estimated Time: 10 minutes

## 6. NSA LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

NSA Chair will facilitate a discussion to identify the priorities of NSA and how NSA may want to engage for the upcoming 83<sup>rd</sup> (2025) Session of the Nevada Legislature. NSA members may provide feedback or suggestions.

Estimated Time: 10 minutes

## 7. MEMBER UPDATES

Members may provide information on the goals of their respective student governments and updates regarding their respective campuses' planned activities and events.

Estimated Time: 5 minutes

## 8. NSA CHAIR UPDATE AND REPORT

The NSA Chair will provide an update on his work with the NSA and information regarding the contents of the Chair's Report that may be delivered to the Board of Regents at their December 4-5, 2024, meeting.

Estimated Time: 5 minutes

## **INFORMATION ONLY**

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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, and no substantive discussion may occur at this meeting on new business items in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law (NRS 241.010 *et seq.*).

Estimated Time: 5 minutes

## **10. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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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 two minutes per person. Persons making comment should begin by stating their name for the record and spelling their last name.

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Estimated Time: 5 minutes

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, Great Hall, 1125 Nevada State Drive, Henderson, NV 89015 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, NV89154-1001 UNR, Clark Administration, University of Nevada, Reno, Reno, NV 89557 WNC, Bristlecone Building Lobby, 2201 W. College Parkway, Carson City, NV 89703System 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 NSHE NSA Website - https://nshe.nevada.edu/system-administration/departments/asa/students/nevadastudent-alliance/

# PROPOSED REVISIONS – PROCEDURES & GUIDELINES MANUAL CHAPTER 4, SECTION NEW Student Government Guidelines

Additions appear in *boldface italics*; deletions are [stricken and bracketed]

- To the extent of its authority set forth in the bylaws, each student government association is self-governing and independent of the administration of the System, financially and otherwise, except as provided by NRS 396.547; Title 2, Chapter 1 of the Board of Regents' Handbook related to adoption, amendment or repeal of a student government constitution, bylaws, or policies; Title 4, Chapter 10 of the Board of Regents' Handbook related to the student association fee; Title 4, Chapter 17 of the Board of Regents' Handbook, related to student association participation; Title 4, Chapter 20 of the Board of Regents' Handbook, related to general policies regulating students and student government; and NSHE Procedures & Guidelines Manual, Chapter 5 related to contract policies.
- 2. Participation in student government associations is an extracurricular activity serving a valuable educational purpose for students.
- 3. Students elected to student government positions are not employees of their respective institutions based solely on their status as members of the student government association.
- 4. If student government associations provide financial support, excluding reimbursement for approved costs, for positions within their associations they may do so only in the form of scholarships, according to their properly adopted constitution and/or bylaws.
- 5. Where the provisions of student government constitutions, or other bylaws, procedures and regulations, conflict with this section \_\_, this section \_\_ shall prevail and the conflicting provisions of such student government constitutions, or other such bylaws, procedures and regulations, shall be void and of no effect whatsoever.
- 6. This policy becomes effective for the student government positions elected for the 2025-2026 academic year.

Ref. NSA - 5



## NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

## A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PROTECTION OF THE INCLUSION, DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND ACCESS (IDEA) COMMITTEE

## DATE HERE

**WHEREAS**, the Nevada Student Alliance (NSA) recognizes that fostering a culture of inclusivity, where every student experiences a sense of belonging and has the opportunity to achieve excellence, is essential to the mission of the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE);

WHEREAS, Nevada's higher education institutions—including universities, community colleges, and specialized research institutions—are dedicated to fostering access, equity, and academic excellence statewide. With designations as Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI), Minority Serving Institutions (MSI), and Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions (AANAPISI), they serve diverse urban, suburban, and rural communities, ensuring inclusive educational opportunities for students from all backgrounds;

**WHEREAS**, NSHE proudly represents one of the most diverse and inclusive higher education systems in the nation, with this diversity reflected in the student bodies across all NSHE institutions, enriching the academic and cultural landscape statewide;

**WHEREAS**, the IDEA Committee contributes to the strategic planning and direction of diversity efforts across NSHE by recommending best practices, identifying barriers, reviewing diversity strategies, and supporting efforts that further IDEA principles;

**WHEREAS**, the IDEA Committee's efforts help cultivate a culture where every member of the NSHE community feels valued, respected, and empowered to contribute their unique perspectives and talents, which in turn promotes a thriving academic environment where diversity, belonging, and excellence are celebrated;

**WHEREAS**, the NSA affirms that the IDEA Committee's work protects the dignity and belonging of individuals from varied racial, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds, including but not limited to Black, Latino, Asian, LGBTQIA+, Jewish, Muslim, women, unhoused, and persons with disabilities, ensuring that everyone feels valued and supported within NSHE;

**WHEREAS**, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) offices are vital to building a culture where all students feel empowered and valued by providing essential resources and programming;

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Regents established the IDEA Council to review, evaluate, and, as needed, formulate additional proposed NSHE inclusion, diversity, equity and access goals, policies, and practices, and provide statewide leadership in best practices.;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Nevada Student Alliance calls for the protection and reinforcement of the IDEA Committee, DEI offices, and IDEA Council within NSHE, emphasizing the following actions to celebrate culture, belonging, and excellence:

- 1. **Protection of the IDEA Committee**: We urge NSHE and the Board of Regents to protect the IDEA Committee from sunsetting, ensuring its continued role in advancing IDEA principles and celebrating the diversity of Nevada's students and institutions.
- 2. Sustained Funding and Support: Prioritize increased funding for DEI offices to provide essential resources that advance IDEA principles and foster a diverse, inclusive, and high-quality learning environment.
- **3.** Commitment to Inclusive Belonging: Strengthen initiatives that promote a sense of belonging for all students and demonstrate a dedication to equity, urging the Board of Regents to engage in anti-bias training and workshops to deepen their understanding of the essential role DEI plays in higher education.
- 4. Strategic Utilization of IDEA Expertise: Leverage the expertise of the IDEA Council to inform and support policies and practices that foster an inclusive and equitable NSHE environment, benefiting all students, faculty, and staff, by including the IDEA Council in decision making processes and actively consulting and empowering the IDEA Council to vet NSHE proposals.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the NSA remains steadfast in its commitment to supporting the IDEA Committee's work, ensuring that NSHE continues to be a place where culture, belonging, and excellence are celebrated, and all individuals feel empowered to thrive.