NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)
AGENDA
February 12, 2021
9:00 a.m.
https://bluejeans.com/131422439

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE ONLY PURSUANT TO SECTION 1 OF THE DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY DIRECTIVE 006 ("DIRECTIVE 006"), AND EXTENDED BY DIRECTIVES 016, 018, 021,026, 029, AND 033, ISSUED BY THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE STATE OF NEVADA. THERE WILL BE NO PHYSICAL LOCATION FOR THE MEETING.

PUBLIC COMMENT MAY BE SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL TO TCASERTO@NSHE.NEVADA.EDU OR VOICEMAIL: (775) 784-3442. MESSAGES RECEIVED BY 4:30 P.M. ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021 MAY BE ENTERED INTO THE RECORD DURING THE MEETING. ANY OTHER EMAILED PUBLIC COMMENT AND/OR VOICEMAILS RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING WILL BE TRANSCRIBED AND INCLUDED IN THE PERMANENT RECORD.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO VIEW THE MEETING MAY DO SO VIA: https://bluejeans.com/131422439

ROLL CALL: Present Gabrielle Clark, Western Nevada College, ASWN (NSA Chair)
Present Will Carrasco, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA (NSA Co-Chair)
Present Karli McFarling-Kelly, College of Southern Nevada (NSA Secretary)
Present Alyssa Fromelius, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA
Present Dominique Hall, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN
Present Sidath Kapukotuwa, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA
Present Katie Dempsey, Great Basin College, SGA
Present Joshua Padilla, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN
Present Suman Randhawa, Nevada State College, NSSA
Office Vacant, Desert Research Institute, GRAD

Guest: Saha Salahi – Ignite Fellow and presenter
Matthew Varre – GPSA treasurer
Chancellor Melody Rose – NSHE
Terina Caserto – NSHE
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 may be accessed on the Internet by visiting the NSA page of the NSHE website: http://www.nevada.edu/studentgov/, or by calling Terina Caserto in the NSHE Office of Academic and Student Affairs at (775) 784-3442, or emailing her at tcaserto@nshe.nevada.edu.

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.

Call to order 9:03 a.m.

1. ROLL CALL

   NSA Secretary Karli McFarling-Kelly will take roll call of members and ask guests to identify themselves verbally so their names may be recorded in the minutes.

   Quorum met with nine members present.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

   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.

   Pursuant to Section 2 of Directive 006, and extended by Directives 016, 018 and 021, members of the public may participate in the meeting without being physically present by submitting public comment via email to tcaserto@nshe.nevada.edu or voicemail: (775) 784-3442. Messages received by 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 11, 2021 may be entered into the record during the meeting. Any other emailed Public Comment and/or voicemails received prior to the adjournment of the meeting will be transcribed and included in the permanent record.

   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.
No public comment.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Request is made for approval of the minutes for the two NSA meetings held on December 3, 2020.

Motion made by Karli McFarling Kelly. Second by Sidath Kapukotuwa. Vote: unanimous approval.

4. DISCUSSION WITH THE CHANCELLOR

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

Chair Clark asks Chancellor Rose for updates.

Chancellor Rose gives updates regarding the start of the legislative season.

- Three presentations have been made to the Legislature so far. One with Andrew Clinger for pre-session budget hearing for high level overview of budget items only. No policy conversation. We elaborate on the Governor’s recommended budget for NSHE. The Governor recommended no additional furloughs, no additional cuts beyond the 12%, he approved three major construction projects: one at UNLV, one for GBC, and one at WNC.
- There is a challenge in the Governor’s recommended budget in that NSHE had asked for flexibility to deal with faculty merit increases internally but there is language in the Governor’s budget that prohibits NSHE from doing so. We are talking with faculty about this.
- Conversations began about employees benefits and changes that are concerning to employees, specifically long term disability.
- This week the same presentations were made to Assembly Education Committee and Senate Education Committee. These are the policy committees that hear any policy related to higher education.
- Yesterday (2/11) Andrew presented the construction projects.

Chair Clark offered support from NSA.

Chancellor Rose mentions that one of the tools that NSHE creates for the legislative session is a one-pager for every Legislator’s district that talks about the students that live in their district, so they know who they are representing. NSHE put all 63 in a single pdf on the NSHE website and the Chancellor invites NSA to use that for the advocacy work they are doing.

Chancellor Rose kicked off the mental health task force a week ago and has student representatives on that. Would like NSA opinion on how to do a listening tour – if there is a way to help her to convene a listening meeting for students across NSHE she would
like to do that.

Chair Clark offers to follow up on convening a listening tour.

Chair Clark thanks Chancellor for the Women’s leadership conference and for the Chancellor’s transparency.

Suman Randhawa (NSC) asks how they can be involved in the mental health taskforce.

Chancellor Rose responds that students are in that task force already and it is an internal task force for policy changes and investments. It is faculty, students, and staff to come up with ideas for policy changes and investment. How NSA can help is by putting together a listening session. And will encourage the task force to engage with NSA when they are looking at proposals.

Suman mentions an initiative at NSC is the placing the suicide hotline number on the student ID cards. Suggests other campuses could implement, too.

Chancellor states she will pass that on to the task force and ask to put on their list of considerations.

Dominique Hall (UNR) follows up on the resolutions that NSA passed with which were the Jewish holidays on NSHE calendars and election day off. Is there something NSA can do?

Chancellor Rose expresses that there is a lot of interest in the religious holidays even beyond just Jewish holidays and can see broadening the resolution. On the election day because Nevada votes by mail there is less anxiety about that. She will raise discussion with the Board the Jewish holidays.

Joshua Padilla (UNLV) asks about the Governor’s State of the State address mentioned higher education reform in terms of community colleges separating from universities. Do you have more insight?

Chancellor Rose had one conversation with the Gov about that concept and currently it is a concept. Chancellor will have a conversation this coming week with him and then will have more insight. Feedback to the Governor would be to be open minded to new ways to organize ourselves and not fix what is not broken and to keep student success at the forefront of the decisions. Highlight that NSHE has one of the best transfer and articulation models in the nation and that is because everyone is under the same umbrella. This is critical for student success. We need to protect things like that that are working well.

Chair Clark encourages those that in the community colleges to talk with their presidents.
Alyssa Fromelius (TMCC) how many students are on the mental health task force and where are they from and the dual enrollment task force?

Chancellor Rose will send a list for the health task force and dual enrollment task force. The dual enrollment task force is really moving along. Chancellor helped Oregon draft a dual enrollment statute and it was seamless across the state. Everyone had same access and paid the same price. That is not true in Nevada. That is concerning as students in our poorest school district are struggling to get access to dual credit. So, the task force is laser focused on how to create equity around dual enrollment. Working with the state Superintendent.

Chair Clark calls for any other questions.

End of questions.

5. **IGNITE NATIONAL PRESENTATION INFORMATION ONLY**

NSA Member Suman Randhawa will introduce guest speaker Ignite Fellow for Las Vegas, Nevada Saha Salahi. Saha Salahi will present information on Ignite National, a non-partisan organization that empowers women to step into political leadership roles. The presentation may include a discussion of the underrepresentation of women in political leadership roles, how Ignite National provides opportunities to women, as well as the benefits of starting an Ignite National College Chapter on a college campus. NSA members will be invited to ask questions.

Presenter Saha Salahi, Ignite Fellow for Nevada. Saha presents the PowerPoint slides and discusses who Ignite serves, the problem Ignite identifies, its mission, and its theory of change. Saha then opens her presentation for questions or comments.

PPT included in the meeting minutes.

Chair Clark asks how to join. And when the next event is.

Saha describes the next event and that they will be talking about legislation and advocacy. Does not discuss how to join.

No other questions.

Chair Clark thanks Saha for attending and asks for Saha to email the link for the next event.

6. **PARTICIPATION IN NEVADA’S 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION INFORMATION ONLY**
Chair Gabrielle Clark will ask NSA members to share any activities to date or plans their respective student governments have to participate in Nevada’s 2021 Legislative Session, which convened on February 1, 2021. Members may also discuss ways to coordinate efforts, possibly including one or more multi-institution student trips to Carson City.

Chair Clark invites guest Saha Salahi to discuss the two bills that IGNITE is advocating for. Saha discusses two bills: one bill on sexual assault on college campuses and the other regarding the advocacy of women to be able to wear natural hair in political spaces. Additionally, one last bill is the equal pay act that is happening in Nevada.

Dominique Hall (UNR): ASUN’s legislative priorities are emergency assistance and housing. ASUN Legislative Director is focusing on the Every Voice bill to reduce sexual violence. Dominique herself is interning in the legislature and cannot personally get involved in any advocacy.

Sidath Kapukotuwa (UNLV) asks his guest Matthew Varre (UNLV) to discuss UNLV plans. Matthew gives update: GPSA met with some senators in December about how they may add to some of the bills. Given that has period has already passed, they are focused on bills for housing and insurance for graduates and grad assistants. Matthew mentions that in other states, institutions do it as a big cohort and not just by university level. That lowers the cost. If anyone is interest, we can bring that to the legislature. They are still in the reaching out stage and looking at different bills. Open to a collaborative effort. Please feel free to contact him.

Karli McFarling-Kelly (CSN): Still in the process of planning. Prison education program and dual enrollment are in the top four. They are planning on meeting with the top speakers with each program/organization on the campus and discussing what they want to advocate to the legislature.

Joshua Padilla (UNLV) priorities are keeping eyes on UNLV Engineering and Medical Building funding through legislation. And on a few higher education bills that are rumored.

Alyssa Fromelius (TMCC) is still in research phase and looking the budget. Looking at CARES funds right now. Has a meeting next week with the TMCC president to further discuss.

No other members shared. Chair Clark congratulates Dominique Hall on her internship.

7. MEMBER UPDATES  INFORMATION ONLY
Chair Gabrielle Clark will ask members to provide an update for their respective campuses’ planned activities and events.

Will Carrasco (UNR GSA): Not too involved in state legislation. Big priority this semester is building their social media via Facebook and Instagram. They are trying to do more student advocacy and mental health workshops.

Karli McFarling Kelly (CSN): Fall 2020 they supported multiple organization at the school for a total $95,000 for student emergency funds for students to purchase laptops and pay bills. This was for active students. Donated over $10,000 for student engagement, $2500 for Fall 2020 Transfer Fair and collaborated with multiple organizations and departments at the school. Have increased followers on social media. Feb 26 they have an African American Step Exhibition. Discussed various upcoming events and technical assistance they are providing for students with laptops and internet.

Dominque Hall (UNR): ASUN has been doing programming on campus and a lot of giveaways. Biggest priority is the legislature. It is election season on campus, and they are preparing for that.

Sidath Kapukotuwa (UNLV): Offered $65,000 for 97 students during COVID 19. Started a new program/mentorship with CSUN and the first orientation had 300 undergrad and 100 graduate students to match mentor and mentee. Annual research forum is scheduled virtually for April 2 and 3 and have 100 students signed up so far. It is for graduate and professional students and is open to UNR, too. Elections for student body will be in April and their secretary may be running.

Katie Dempsey (GBC): A toiletry supply pantry established at all campuses. Student newsletter was launched in January. Various virtual events have been their focus – Lunch With A Leader, movie nights, open mic night and GBC PPE for welcome back. Donated $100,000 for students in Winnemucca who were commuting to finish their degrees. Elections will be in April. Revamping a game room.

Josh Padilla (UNLV): The biggest thing with CSUN is the budget reallocation and putting additional $90,000 for registered student organization funding. That brings a total of $390,000 for registered student organization funding. Additional $44,000 for scholarships for a total of $263,000 for scholarship funding to students. BLM mural and bike storage lockers. Focusing on legislature. Working on two more emergency grants. And will try to hold a town hall. And preparing for next CSUN election.

Suman Randhawa (NSC): Provided four different scholarships for 20 students. Allocated additional funds and provided 8 more scholarships. Providing remote learning enhancement tools to students. Working on a no-strings attached funds for student club and organization. Planning committee for women’s history month with women in empowerment theme. Anyone interested in joining, it is open to entire Nevada – health and wellness topics, career and academic development and women
in leadership and entrepreneurs. Currently working on sustainability initiatives. Purchasing items for the student lounge when it opens again. Th big events are the Scorpion Talks by faculty and advisors and open to students to ask questions.

Gabrielle Clark (WNC): Food pantry is open and being used. Looking into who the next student cabinet is going to be and reaching out to individuals who are interested.

Alyssa Fromelius (TMCC): TMCC General Assembly voted to move on campus internships to 2021. SGA is hosting virtual events. Gave out 500 bags of school supplies on all campuses. Pasta with the President event met with 40 students and gave out 80 Olive Garden meals. Upcoming club fair. Election applications have started.

8. NEW BUSINESS

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.

Terina Caserto, NSHE, announces the timeframe between this meeting and the meeting in March is very short and the next agenda must be finalized by next Wednesday (February 17) so the agenda can be forwarded for review to legal counsel by next Friday (February 19).

No new business.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

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No public comment.

Meeting adjourned at 10:29 a.m.

Introductions

Who are we?
IGNITE women:
- Learn how to analyze and make policy
- Build the skills they need to run
- Define their call to service
- Network with elected women
- Access to jobs and internships in the political arena
- Launch political careers
IGNITE is the largest young women’s political organization in the country. We are the only organization that provides sustained political leadership training and engagement to high school, college, graduate school women in their home communities. IGNITE women represent the diversity of our country.
The Problem

Women are dramatically underrepresented in political leadership.

The US ranks 95th in the world when it comes to gender parity in political leadership. This is not just a problem of equity. Women make better legislators - they compromise and negotiate more effectively than men in the same positions.
Why is this a problem?
ICEBREAKER
IGNITE is a movement of young women who are ready and eager to become the next generation of political leaders.
THE SOLUTION IS LOCAL

As federal government becomes less effective, policy decisions are made at the local level.

Local government makes decisions around issues like:

- Gun and ammo sales
- Sanctuary cities
- ICE Raids
- Science education
- Sex education

Local elected officials include:
- Mayor
- City Council
- County Supervisor
- School Board
- Community College Board
- Water Board
- Mosquito Abatement Board
- many, many more!

Local government has a large number of elected officials:
- President: 1
- Congress: 535
- State legislative: 8,000
- Local elected officials: 511,000
THEORY OF CHANGE

Tackle the barriers that impede young women’s political ambition

Political socialization + Training + Civic knowledge = Political Ambition

Students meet with elected women and policymakers who show them how it’s done.

We train young women to run. Elected women lend opportunities to work in the field.

Young women learn how government impacts their lives, how to analyze policy and how to impact change.
Where do we go from here?

At IGNITE, we’re always asking what does all this mean for young women. Here’s what we are seeing:

Young women are fired up and ready to keep going: on campaigns and as activists.

More young women are going to vote.

More young women are going to run, and run sooner.