

NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)

Minutes

December 4, 2014

7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Student Union, Room 218

4505 S. Maryland Parkway

Las Vegas, NV 89154

NSA Chair Stephanie Prevost called the meeting to order at 7:09 a.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Members present: Mrs. Stephanie Prevost, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA (NSA Chair)
Ms. Sharon Young, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA (NSA Vice Chair)
Mr. Angelo DePerez, Western Nevada College, ASWN (NSA Secretary)
Ms. RJ Boyajian, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA
Mr. David Cortez-Lopez, Nevada State College, NSSA
Ms. Megan Johnson, Desert Research Institute, GRAD
Mr. William McCurdy, College of Southern Nevada, ASCSN
Mr. Jake Pereira, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN
Ms. DeMarynee Sali, Great Basin College, SGA

Members absent: Mr. Elias Benjelloun, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN

Others present: Vice Chancellor Brooke Nielsen
Renee Davis, NSHE
Umram Osambela, CSN & NSC
Omar Saucedo, NSHE

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

INFORMATION

No public comment was presented.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

A motion was made by President R.J. Boyajian to approve the minutes for NSA meetings held on September 4, 5 and October 13, 2014. President William McCurdy seconded, and the motion passed.

4. CHAIR'S REPORT

INFORMATION

Chair Prevost began by explaining that two educational days at the state legislature were planned and that there was a desire to start planning for rallies for these two days. The first day is the general education day for both higher education and K-12 on Monday, March 2. The second day is a higher education is on Tuesday, April 14. The idea would be that it is time for the state to step up and support the students who have already stepped up and are paying higher tuition. NSA will be looking for donations to cover the costs of the events and also to cover transportation to Carson City. By the next NSA meeting in January, the budget will be figured out and proposed and what each institution can cover. President Boyajian indicated UNR is willing to help but would need to see a formalized budget.

NSA Vice Chair Sharon Young asked why large rallies are being planned instead of individual legislative visits. Chair Prevost indicated she was planning on both. President Boyajian emphasized that a plan of action is needed to prevent things from looking unorganized as that would take away from the goal that student leaders are trying to achieve.

5. APPOINTMENTS TO NSHE TITLE IX COMPLIANCE WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW POLICIES AND MODEL TRAINING OPTIONS FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

At its September 2014 meeting, the Board of Regents approved the establishment of an NSHE working group to review NSHE policies and explore model training options in response to revised Title IX Compliance requirements for prevention and response to sexual misconduct on campus. At the October 2014 NSA meeting the NSA nominated two of its members to serve as student representatives on the Task Force: RJ Boyajian (UNR graduate student) and Angelo Deperez (WNC undergraduate student).

This item was tabled and the group moved on to the next item.

6. NSHE Legislative Proposals INFORMATION

NSA Lobbyist Umram Osambela presented the legislative proposals that NSHE is pursuing in the 2015 session of the Nevada State Legislature. He explained that so far only Bill Draft numbers and titles had been issued. He also talked about the proposed NSHE budget. BDRs that Mr. Osambela is following include:

- a. 43-200 (Assemblyman Stewart) – Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship Program
- b. 34-258 (Assemblyman Kirner) – Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship Program
- c. There is a third Millennium Program BDR that is expected from the Committee to Conduct an Interim Study Concerning Community Colleges (S.B. 391) that increases the semester maximum for funding from 12 to 15 credits.
- d. Another BDR is also expected in support of NSHE's proposal for a state-supported need-based financial aid program. The NSHE proposal is for a program that would benefit students at the community colleges and state college. Mr. Osambela suggested to the group that they might request university students also be eligible for awards through this proposed program.
- e. 592 (Committee to Conduct an Interim Study Concerning Community Colleges (S.B. 391)) – Workforce Development Rapid Response Investment Fund
- f. 594 (Committee to Conduct an Interim Study Concerning Community Colleges (S.B. 391)) – STEM Workforce Challenge Grant
- g. Also expected, but not yet issued, is a BDR having to do with tobacco prohibitions on the NSHE campuses. This is a controversial issue among NSHE students and Mr. Osambela will need guidance from the Alliance on how to approach.
- h. 34-320 (NSHE) – Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education
- i. 509 (Senator Hardy) – provisions relating to higher education

NSHE External Affairs Coordinator Omar Saucedo explained that he and Vice Chancellor Constance Brooks have been meeting with new legislators. Mr. Osambela asked if it would be a good idea to approach legislators about BDRs they are sponsoring and Mr. Saucedo said he would encourage Mr. Osambela to do so, but pointed out email may not be effective due to the volume of emails legislators are receiving. Instead, he suggested asking in person.

