

**NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)**

**Minutes July 14, 2016**

**4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.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 122  
Henderson- NSC RSC 370  
Las Vegas–CSN CHEY 2638 and NSHE System Admin 101**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

*Meeting called to order by NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta at 4:03 p.m.*

**2. ROLL CALL**

*Ms. Desiree DeCosta, Nevada State College, NSSA (NSA Chair) - Present  
Mr. Carlos Fernandez, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN (NSA Vice Chair) - Present  
Mr. David Turner II, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA (NSA Secretary) - Absent  
Mr. Brandon Boone, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN – represented by proxy: Noah Teixeira  
Ms. Chelsey Fox, Great Basin College, SGA - Present at 4:04 p.m.  
Ms. Meghan Pierce, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA - Present  
Ms. Jill Robinson, College of Southern Nevada, ASCSN - Present  
Mr. Tyler Ross, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA - Absent  
Mr. Deep Sengupta, Desert Research Institute, GRAD - Present  
Mr. Cody Shepard, Western Nevada College, ASWN - Present at 4:09 p.m.*

**3. GUEST RECOGNITION**

*Ms. Renée Davis, Director of Student Affairs with the Nevada System of Higher Education  
Ms. Lilly Leon-Vicks, Western Nevada College Coordinator for Student Life  
Mr. Steven Cohen, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Student*

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**(INFORMATION)**

*Ms. Lilly Leon-Vicks, Western Nevada College Coordinator for Student Life informs all NSA members of the leadership opportunity discussed with some members at the last meeting. To take place the day before the next Board of Regents meeting, September 7, 2016. A contract was signed with Catalyst for a one day leadership workshop through Leadershape, to be held at Truckee Meadows Community College in the Red Mountain Building. Sixty (60) Student leaders are able to participate in the event. Each institution is able to send two students that will be able to participate, paid. Food arrangements have not been made at this time. The cost for each institution will just be room and board.*

*Mr. Noah Teixeira, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN, questions the cost to have more than two students to attend the leadership workshop.*

*Ms. Lilly Leon-Vicks, Western Nevada College Coordinator for Student Life expects the cost to be around sixty dollars (\$60) per student but suggests holding off on trying to reserve spots as student leaders within the clubs and organizations at Western Nevada and Truckee Meadows Community College have been invited, but there should still be extra spots.*

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**(ACTION)**

*NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez makes a motion to approve the minutes from June 9, 2016.*

*NSA Member Jill Robinson seconds.*

*Minutes approved by unanimous vote.*

**6. NSA NEWSLETTER**

**(ACTION)**

*NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez informs the members of his responsibility to inform the public of the actions taken by the NSA members. He would like each member to send a report on the first Sunday of the month of information items regarding events and actions being taken at each member's respective institution.*

*NSA Member Jill Robinson asks if the information can only be from the Student President's at each institution or if other members of an institute's Student Government can send in testimonies.*

*NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez suggests that any member can send in information, but to focus on the good that is going on at each institution.*

*NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta points out that in the past the Newsletter was released twice a year in the fall and spring.*

*NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez would like it to be monthly because of everything each institute is doing this upcoming year, however he is open to suggestions.*

*Noah Teixeira, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN, proxy points out that, if the NSA is going to produce a Newsletter, there is reason to be concerned about it becoming too top heavy with information on the Universities and not focusing enough at the college level. That the Newsletter should be sent out once or twice a semester to be able to showcase the bigger pictures of the colleges without being overshadowed by the universities.*

*NSA Member Cody Shepard suggests going quarterly to be in line with the Board of Regents meetings.*

*NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez makes a motion for the NSA Newsletter to be released once a semester.*

*NSA Member Chelsey Fox Seconds.*

*Noah Teixeira, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN, proxy brings up a discussion point in agreeance with NSA Member Cody Shepard, that the Newsletter should coincide with the Regents Meetings to keep the public informed of any changes, actions or information from the Regents regarding the institutes.*

*NSA Member Deep Sengupta also agrees for it to be side by side with the Board of Regents meetings, pointing out to the last NSA Meeting with the Regents wanting us to get information from the NSA's constituents.*

*Noah Teixeira, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN, proxy makes a motion to amend the motion to state that the NSA Newsletter will be published once a quarter in conjunction with the Board of Regents Meeting.*

*NSA Member Deep Sengupta seconds.*

*Amendment approved by unanimous vote.*

*Motion to publish quarterly newsletter approved by unanimous vote.*

**7. IT'S ON US NATIONAL CAMPAIGN (ACTION)**

*NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta reminds the NSA Members about the importance of this campaign, to educate students about sexual assault on campuses and prevention. This campaign's message was started the previous year by former NSA Chair Caden Fabbi, now it is up to the current NSA members to decide how to continue this message in the upcoming academic year.*

*NSA Member Jill Robinson discusses a Safety Fair that was held the previous year and would like to incorporate the sexual assault awareness and prevention events that UNLV did into the next Safety Fair. That invites have been extended to the Las Vegas Metro Police to station a booth to provide information on self-defense as well as other Las Vegas nonprofits in hopes to be able to make an event that UNLV is willing to partner with.*

*Noah Teixeira, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN proxy points to the high profile Stanford rape trial and that Stanford has an It's On Us Campaign as well. That if you look at the case, the students that stopped the rape were part of the It's On Us Campaign. To not continue with this message would be a disservice to the NSA's constituents.*

*Noah Teixeira, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN, proxy make a motion for the NSA to continue the It's On Us Campaign for the next year.*

*NSA Member Cody Shepard seconds.*

*Motion for the NSA to continue the It's On Us Campaign for the next year approved by unanimous vote.*

**8. UNDOCUMENTED/DACA RESOURCE CAMPAIGN (ACTION)**

*NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta reminds the NSA Members that at the last meeting this was one of the issues that came up to be addressed by the NSA. To be able to better serve all students, not just the documented ones.*

*NSA Member Jill Robinson informs all NSA Members about the CSN Dreamer Scholarship that ends July 15, 2016. While this scholarship is geared to help all students and there are students in support of it, there are those opposed to it including students. That as student government, we should explore partnering with organizations that are already in place to help individuals gain citizenship through workshops. To help students, or even students whose parents are not citizens. As a lot of these students are afraid to come out to seek these resources.*

*NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta expands from NSA Member Jill Robinson's comment and points out that Nevada State College offers scholarships and workshops for their undocumented students.*

*NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez points out that some organizations have stipulations for scholarships, such as the need to be a citizen. That even if some students are not citizens that they still need our support and that this needs to be an NSA initiative.*

*NSA Member Deep Sengupta informs the NSA members that international student funding comes from the National Level, that pursuing this at a State Level might be a little difficult.*

*Noah Teixeira, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN, proxy informs the NSA Members that he does not have enough information regarding this issue to make an educated stance on the matter and will be abstaining from the vote.*

*NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez motions for the NSA to be in favor of the finding of resources to support Undocumented/DACA students by each institution's own NSA Member's Student Government.*

*NSA Member Meghan Pierce seconds.*

*NSA Member Jill Robinson questions where the funding for scholarships is going to be coming from, or if it is going to be up to the institutions to find funding. Is each member looking for resources or funding scholarships.*

*NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez the motion is to help find resources to help the NSA reach its goal in supporting Undocumented/DACA students.*

*Noah Teixeira, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN, proxy questions the legitimacy of the motion for the lack of any action stated within the motion. That the motion is supporting support, where as it should be in support of actions being taken to help Undocumented/DACA students. There needs to be more information on what action is needed so the NSA has a starting point.*

*NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez clarifies his intentions with the motion that it is saying as student leaders to find ways of supporting Undocumented/DACA students. That this is similar to the "It's On Us" campaign, to having each institution find its own means.*

*NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta clarifies with the continuing of the "It's On Us" campaign, each institution found ways of taking it to the student body, similar to this motion.*

*Noah Teixeira, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN, proxy points out that the NSA found a resource within the "It's On Us" campaign and took it to the NSA to be in favor of using this resource, rather than being in favor of searching for campaign without taking it to the NSA to have all NSA institutions be in favor of one resource.*

*NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez points out that DACA is a program to be in favor of.*

*NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta asks if the NSA members are wanting more information on who Undocumented/DACA students are and the resources they need and coming back to this item at a later time.*

*NSA Member Deep Sengupta agrees that approach may be better. To have a better understanding how the NSA is going to be involved and the NSA's role within each institution. That a more solid plan should be in place.*

*NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta is happy to hear about the NSA members being in support of this, and again clarifies that the motion is to have the NSA be in support of Undocumented/DACA students.*

*Noah Teixeira, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN, proxy agrees with supporting Undocumented/DACA students. However feels that a plan of action is needed. Pointing out that creating a model other institutions have made or use to help these students enroll and to obtain campus jobs should be done.*

*NSA Member Cody Shepard agrees and points out the NSA just supporting something doesn't do anything for the students, that there needs to be a plan of action to be able to help the students.*

*NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta states that the idea was to have the leaders be in support of this and then to have each NSA member take it back to their institutions to create a plan of action.*

*NSA Member Meghan Pierce agrees with this statement and feels that the NSA Members should return to this item and share their implementations of resources that the NSA can then come to an agreement on.*

*Noah Teixeira, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN, proxy states he will be voting against this for lack of any action within the motion and states the importance of having a clear plan before voting for something. That broad statements do not add credibility to the NSA and that they should be avoided.*

*Motion to be in favor of the finding of resources to support Undocumented/DACA students by each institution's own NSA Member's Student Government approved*

*Six (6) aye votes*

*Two (2) Ney votes*

*NSA Member Jill Robinson*

*Noah Teixeira, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN, proxy*

*Zero (0) abstentions.*

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

### **(INFORMATION)**

*NSA Member Jill Robinson reminds the NSA Members about the Open Education Resources being brought up at the previous meeting and would like to see it on the next meeting agenda.*

*NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez wanted to shares with the NSA that he is working with Rainier Spencer, Ph.D. on a Diversity summit, that he would like to extend invites to the other Southern Institutes, Nevada State College and College of Southern Nevada. That there will be four sessions and would like students to talk about Diversity as a whole. The deadline to host a workshop will be August 15, 2016.*

*Noah Teixeira, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN, proxy informs that UNR hosted a Diversity Summit the previous year and if resources are needed to contact NSA Member Brandon Boone.*

**10. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**(INFORMATION)**

*(No Public Comment)*

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

*NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta Adjourns the meeting at 4:50 p.m.*