



**NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)**

**AGENDA**

**August 10, 2017**

**4:00 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:**

**Battle Mountain – GBC BM 1**

**Carson City - WNC Dini 105**

**Elko - GBC LCSL 122**

**Henderson - NSC RSC 370**

**Las Vegas–CSN CHEY 2638 and NSHE System Admin 101**

**Chair Kanani Espinoza calls meeting to order at 4:03pm**

**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 Renée Davis at (775) 784-3447 or emailing her at renee\_davis@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) 784-3443 or (775) 784-3447 so that arrangements may be made.

**1. ROLL CALL**

NSA Secretary Christopher Roys 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.

Guests present: **Renee Davis**

**NSHE Chancellor Thom Reilly**

**Ms. Kanani Espinoza, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA (NSA Chair) Present**

**Ms. Kimberly Tran, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA (NSA Vice Chair) Present**

**Mr. Christopher Roys, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN (Secretary) Present**

**Ms. Christina Barron, Nevada State College, NSSA Absent**

**Ms. Tania Covarrubias, Western Nevada College, ASWN Present**

**Mr. Sandesh Kannan, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA Present**

**Ms. Becky Linville, Great Basin College, SGA Excused**

**Ms. Kathleen Rodrigues, Desert Research Institute, GRAD Absent**

**Mr. Noah Teixeira, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN Absent**

**Ms. Elizabeth Zuniga, College of Southern Nevada, ASCSN Present**

**6/10 Body Meets Quorum**

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT****INFORMATION**

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, 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.

**Chair opens public comment.**

**No public comment given.**

**Chair closes public comment.**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES****FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

Request is made for approval of the minutes for the NSA meetings held on June 8, 2017.

**Chair opens approval of minutes; Secretary Roys makes a point of information about timeliness of minutes for the future.**

**Secretary Roys makes a motion to reopen action item three. \*\*Corrected\*\***

**Chair Espinoza opens period of discussion.**

**Committee votes in favor of reopening action item 3 with a vote of 6-0, no abstentions.**

Chair calls vote for approval of minutes:  
Minutes pass with a vote of 6-0, no abstentions.

#### 4. DISCUSSION WITH CHANCELLOR

#### INFORMATION

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

Chair moves on to Discussion with Chancellor Thom Reilly:  
Each member of the NSA introduces themselves; starting with Tania Covarrubias, Major in Criminal Justice, Minor in Business Sandesh Kannan, working on PhD at UNR  
Kimberly Tran, TMCC Student Gov. President, High School student on accelerated program studying computer engineering.  
Elizabeth Zuniga, President of ASCSN, Majoring in secondary education.  
Christopher Roys, CSUN President.  
Kanani Espinoza, President of GPSA.

Chancellor Reilly asks how often student leadership meets with University Presidents in standing meetings.  
UNLV: none scheduled regularly  
UNR: once a month  
WNC: Once a week  
TMCC: Once a month

Chair Espinoza describes the purpose of NSA and what members do to work together to pass certain items.  
Chancellor Reilly informs NSA that he would be willing to inform the committee about agenda items.

Chancellor Reilly introduces himself.  
Renee Davis requests that Chancellor Reilly describe his goals: He has plans to have strategic planning set by December with the Board of Regents. By January, having a clearly articulated plan for 3-5 years in the future.  
24% of the NV population from 18-24 is in higher education, including 2 year college whereas the national average is close to 50%. We should make room for individuals who are qualified and interested. We need to reimagine and be more proactive about higher education in order to include more individuals in degree completion and solving problems.

We should take advantage of the Governor's fondness of higher education and capitalize on that sentiment;

Chair Espinoza asks how students can be involved in creating budget strategies to encourage NSHE funding on State level.  
Chancellor Reilly explains that Student Body Presidents are more engaged and more informed. General students at NSHE institutions can weigh-in what is more important in higher ed.

Where do students think that the priorities should be? Should money go into public safety or scholarships?

Chancellor Reilly encourages administration to provide information to student leaders in terms they can understand and be able to effectively explain to other students.

Chancellor Reilly describes policy at the Morrison Institute to encourage researchers to explain information in a plain-spoken and relevant manner. "If you can't explain it in a couple pages, nobody will read it."

Sandesh Kannan agrees with Chancellor Reilly's philosophy.

Chair Espinoza inquires about getting meetings with Chancellor Reilly and other student leaders. He requests that they schedule them on a case-by-case basis.

Chancellor Reilly leaves discussion and thanks the NSA for allowing him to come speak.

Renee Davis advises NSA Chair to reopen action item 3 to properly vote on the action item; it was not initially seconded properly.

Secretary Roys motions to reopen action item 3.

## 5. **2018 NSA MEETING DATES & TIMES**

## **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

NSA Chair Kanani Espinoza will request feedback from members on potential NSA video conference dates and times for Calendar Year 2018, specifically whether or not the meetings should be moved from 4:00 p.m. on the second Thursday in January, February, April, May, July, August, October and November. Members may choose to keep the existing meeting pattern for 2018, change the day of the month and time, and/or eliminate meetings during specific months. Since the NSHE Chancellor is invited to these meetings, members may also choose to create a ranked list of potential meeting times that will be shared with the Chancellor for compatibility with his schedule.

Chair Espinoza opens action item 5.

It is determined that the NSA cannot decide the times of meetings due to uncertainty related to members' schedules. NSA determines that Doodle Poll will be required to determine availability of members.

Renee Davis will coordinate NSA schedule with Chancellor Reilly's schedule.

Secretary Roys makes a motion to postpone action item until September.

Seconded by Sandesh Kannan

Committee votes 6-0, no abstentions to postpone action item.

**6. NSA NEWSLETTER** **INFORMATION**

NSA Vice Chair Kimberly Tran will provide information to members on writing assignments, deadlines, and work accomplished to date on the NSA newsletter for 2017-18.

Kimberly Tran shares information related to NSA Newsletter; she believes that the NSA should send a mid-term and end-term update to all institutions with Board of Regents and legislative updates.

**7. DISCUSSION ON SYSTEM-WIDE INITIATIVES & GOALS** **INFORMATION**

NSA Chair Kanani Espinoza will lead an open discussion on goals the student body presidents have for their terms of office and possible system-wide initiatives and goals that the Alliance may wish to adopt. If there is an appetite by members to adopt common Alliance goals, one or more action items may be added to future agendas for further discussion and decision.

Chair moves on to action item 7.

Chair Espinoza discusses the elimination of the public service loan forgiveness program and how the Department of Education may destroy this program; impact of students discussed and how it affects individuals in higher education.

Secretary Roys describes the desire to create a “victim’s bill of rights” for survivors of violent crime; NSHE adoption of a document respecting these issues will allow students to have more due process and protections.

Sandesh Kannan describes possible issues with weapons policy enforcement on NSHE Campuses and seeing if NSA is willing to pass a resolution for it.

**8. MEMBER REPORTS** **INFORMATION**

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.

Item skipped.

**9. NEW BUSINESS** **INFORMATION**

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.

Item skipped.

**10. PUBLIC COMMENT** **INFORMATION**

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Chair moves on to public comment.

No public comment.

Chair adjourns meeting at 4:59pm.