



**NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)
MINUTES**

**August 10, 2018
9:00 a.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 4
Carson City – WNC BRIS Executive Conference Room
Elko – GBC LCSL 122
Henderson – NSC RSC 351
Las Vegas – CSN CHEY Bldg C 2638 and NSHE System Admin 101**

MEETING IS CALLED TO ORDER BY NSA VICE CHAIR ANDREW SIERRA AT 9:14 AM

1. ROLL CALL:

**Mr. Christopher Roys, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN (NSA Chair) - PRESENT BY
PROXY -HANNA PATENAUDE**
Mr. Andrew Sierra, College of Southern Nevada, ASCSN (NSA Vice Chair) - PRESENT
Ms. Ahtziry Vasquez, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA (NSA Secretary) - PRESENT
Ms. Hannah Jackson, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN - PRESENT
Mr. Sandesh Kannan, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA -ABSENT
Ms. Becky Linville, Great Basin College, SGA - PRESENT BY PROXY – MARIBEL VERA
Ms. Viridiana Miranda, Western Nevada College, ASWN – PRESENT (ARRIVED AT 9:35 A.M.)
Ms. Stephanie Molina, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA - PRESENT
Ms. Nicola Opfer, Nevada State College, NSSA - ABSENT
Vacant, Desert Research Institute, GRAD - POSITION VACANT

Guests:

Thom Reilly, NSHE Chancellor
Maraki Abera, CSN ASCSN
Renee Davis, NSHE
Michael Flores, NSHE
Stacy Kidd, CSN ASCSN
Susie Lee, Candidate for U.S. Congress
Anthony Martinez, UNR ASUN
Amanda Page, GBC SGA

A QUORUM OF MEMBERS IS PRESENT

2. PUBLIC COMMENT **INFORMATION**

Susie Lee, candidate for congress in Southern Nevada, wanted to show her support for NSA. She talks about how important higher education is to her and how she wants to help all students in finishing their education. She acknowledges that there are many young adults that are faced with educational problems not only in K-12 education but in higher education as well. She wanted to make clear that there is a lot of national conversation about vocational and apprenticeship training programs and Nevada is at the forefront of that creating a pipeline to high school students.

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

Stephanie Molina makes a motion to approve
Hannah Jackson seconds
Motion passes unanimously 9-0-0

4. DISCUSSION WITH CHANCELLOR **INFORMATION ONLY**

Chancellor Reilly wants the student body presidents to keep themselves informed about what their individual institutions will be doing with the 4% tuition increase. Student body presidents should also be talking to their institutions about how they will be spending the deferred maintenance money. There will be a presentation on these topics during the October special Board of Regents meeting. Freezing tuition is also a topic that has been looked at over the summer. The work of that group will be presented to the NSA, but that might not happen until October.

Jackson asks in what meeting the 4% is being discussed.
Chancellor Reilly clarifies that it will be at the October Special Board meeting.

Sierra asks for clarification if there was an increase on student access funds when the 4% tuition increase also happened.
Chancellor Reilly said yes and that how it will be spent depends on the individual institution.

Jackson asks what help will be provided to the students that are part of the Nevada Promise and chose to transfer into a 4 year.
Michael Flores confirms that the topic will continue to be discussed in this next legislative session.

Hannah Patenaude asks whether there will be any changes to NSHE's budget submissions to the State of Nevada.
Chancellor Reilly confirmed that the submissions are reflective of what was discussed at the last meeting and summarized the budget priorities of the Board. Final discussion will take place at the August 24th meeting, but he does not expect any surprises.

Patenaude asks how UNLV or CSUN could rebrand the 15 to finish idea.
Chancellor Reilly states that he loves the focus on graduation and on student access. He states that access without success is not opportunity. Has been talking to legislators and regents about the idea of changing the SSOG program to 30 to finish (could mean 12, 12, 6 or 12, 15, 3, for example). This is one of the reasons the Board is pushing for more state support for courses taught in the summer. Institutions should be held accountable for graduation rates. We need to understand why students are not completing college and what challenges they may be facing and

how institutions can develop programs or bring help to students. Patenaude confirmed these discussions are happening at UNLV.

Jackson asks specifically what committee will be exploring lock in tuition and if a student can join.

Chancellor Reilly responded that it is a special committee that began meeting over the summer. The working group will present directly to NSA with an update and that will provide the connection with students.

Molina expresses her concerns that UNLV should be funneling the financial aid dollars set aside from graduate registration fees back to the graduate college, particularly in support of registration fee waivers granted to graduate assistants. She feels that the graduate school is not receiving enough funding in order to provide students with more programs.

**5. UPDATE ON STUDENT GOVERNMENT
COMMUNICATION PLANS**

INFORMATION ONLY

Sierra has been able to talk to CSN's acting president about focusing on student access funds, wants to increase pay to part time faculty, and wants to put money back into student services. He is also working on a survey that will provide his team with student feedback about their plans.

Patenaude has been speaking with the business and finance officer about details regarding how their institution will be spending the 4% tuition increase. CSUN is also working on a press release that will occur before August 24 regarding the June Board of Regents meeting. CSUN President Christopher Roys has a state of the campus speech is coming up.

Jackson states that a lot of UNR plans are the same as UNLV. She meets monthly with UNR's president and vice president of student affairs monthly and also with the vice president of finance. She encourages everyone to talk and ask questions at their own institutions about how funds from the 4% tuition increase will be spent.

6. CAMPUS HUNGER REDUCTION ACT OF 2018

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Jackson expresses her concern that hunger on campus is a nationwide problem and a Nevada problem. She talks about Pack Provisions, the on-campus food pantry, and how successful it has been on the UNR campus. She encourages all institutions to look into the program and how it could help students. ASUN passed their own resolution in support of the Campus Hunger Reduction Act.

Patenaude states that she and NSA Chair Christopher Roys is in support of the resolution and what it stands for. They are doing similar things at UNLV.

Molina suggests that NSA's resolution will have greater impact if a couple more institutions provided information on their own campus hunger reduction programs. Patenaude says UNLV will have things to contribute but will have to gather that data after the meeting. Hannah asked members to email information to her and she will include in a revised resolution.

Motion to table event till next meeting is made by Molina and seconded by Patenaude.

Motion passes unanimously: 9-0-0

7. DISCUSSION ON LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEGISLATION IMPACTING HIGHER EDUCATION **INFORMATION ONLY**

Sierra discussed the different topics that are coming up in the next legislative session that could affect all students this upcoming year (document distributed with agenda).
Jackson thanks Sierra for providing this resource

8. DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE NSA CAMPAIGN ON STUDENT ENGAGEMENT **INFORMATION ONLY**

Patenaude wants everyone on campus to feel like NSHE is transparent and wants to focus on reaching out to public officials at an early time and encourage engagement with candidates before elections. She wants students, who are the ones that make up universities, to feel like their opinions are being listened to.

Sierra has been talking to Jackson about specific programs and events that she puts on at UNR and how he is going to use those tactics. He suggests developing a short catchy slogan for NSA. Patenaude believe that the slogan idea will work, especially with a focus of students putting power in their own hands. Jackson agrees as well, pointing out the important of messaging in all we do.

9. MEMBER REPORTS **INFORMATION ONLY**

Jackson is currently still getting more info on Roadtrip Nation, which will be shared at the next meeting. Every month ASUN is meeting with staff members from Senator Cortez-Masto's office and they created a list serve for them so that they can receive any information that affects students. She also talks about the "biggest little festival" and invites everybody to attend since they will be in Reno for the Board meeting that week.

Patenaude says UNLV, is still working on safety on campus through the rebel rides program. Her institution is searching for a new chief of police. The executive branch has been altered and now they have a legislative branch that can serve as a connection between students and political officials.

Sierra reports that financial services will not be able to increase financial scholarships this semester, However, it will double next semester. He has planned out all the events for the upcoming semester and has been meeting with a lot of political candidates to express to them how students are struggling.

10. NEW BUSINESS **INFORMATION ONLY**

Jackson suggests having a state level assessment on food and housing insecurity.

Sierra has been talking to Nicola Opfer frequently about creating a committee at his institution where students could have a more accessible way of talking about decisions that the Board of Regents or NSA will be taking action on.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

INFORMATION ONLY

Maribel Vera informs the body about upcoming events and expresses her excitement in seeing other NSA members in Reno at the upcoming Board of Regents meeting.

Patenaude states that she is the first senior editor at UNLV and wants all the institutions to feel free to contact her with any questions, comments, concerns about what she does.

MEETING IS ADJOURNED AT 10:17AM