



NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)

MINUTES

November 29, 2018

4:30 p.m.

Time Approximate: The meeting will begin upon adjournment of the Board of Regents' Audit and Compliance and Investment committee meetings.

Student Union, Room 213
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas 89154

MEETING IS CALLED TO ORDER AT 4:33 PM BY NSA CHAIR CHRISTOPHER ROYS.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Christopher Roys, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN (NSA Chair) **PRESENT**
Mr. Andrew Sierra, College of Southern Nevada, ASCSN (NSA Vice Chair) **PRESENT**
Ms. Ahtziry Vasquez, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA (NSA Secretary)
PRESENT BY PROXY – RACHEL HOLDERREAD
Ms. Hannah Jackson, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN **PRESENT**
Ms. Tara Park, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA **PRESENT**
Ms. Becky Linville, Great Basin College, SGA **PRESENT**
Ms. Viridiana Miranda, Western Nevada College, ASWN - **PRESENT**
Ms. Stephanie Molina, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA **PRESENT**
Ms. Nicola Opfer, Nevada State College, NSSA **PRESENT**
Vacant, Desert Research Institute, GRAD **VACANT**

Guests:

Chair Kevin Page, Board of Regents
Vice Chair Jason Geddes, Board of Regents
Dean Gould, Board of Regents Chief of Staff
Chancellor Thom Reilly, NSHE
Michael Flores, NSHE Chief of Staff
Clarissa Bradley, Vice President, ASUN
David Singleton, NSHE Transfer and Articulation Ombudsperson
Crystal Abba, NSHE
Renee Davis, NSHE
Allison Combs, NSHE

A QUORUM OF MEMBERS IS PRESENT.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

INFORMATION

David Singleton, NSHE Transfer and Articulation Ombudsperson, explains his role and asks that if anyone has any students with questions or concerns on transfer to please contact him. His email is transfer@nshe.nevada.edu.

Hanna Jackson thanks Mr. Singleton for the flyers that she received.

Becky Lineville thanks Tara Park for speaking on the GBC athletics issue at the Board of

Regents meeting today.

2. DISCUSSION WITH BOARD OFFICERS AND CHANCELLOR INFORMATION

The body discusses items with Officers of the Board and the Chancellor.

Hannah Jackson raises the idea of more formal appointments to Regents' committees and other standing committees. There is general support for the idea. Chair Page and Vice Chair Geddes discuss that there is a lot of student engagement inside committees. Chair Roys reinforces that there are students on task forces currently, including the task force on free speech. Ms. Jackson suggests that students should be included from the beginning of the process in order to be fully informed about issues. She uses the example of tuition that came up earlier in the year and how it was an extremely complex process.

Tara Park notes that the GSA is currently, in conversations with leadership at UNR about the graduate student experience and their frustration. UNR is seeking R1 status, but focus is more on undergraduate students who are such a higher population. A focus on graduate students is important if UNR wants to get R1 status. Vice Chair Geddes notes that under institutional R1 plans, the number of graduate students needed to get to that status is included with a comparison to peer institutions and if graduate students have information about not keeping up with peer institutions, they need to bring the issues up or prompt their presidents to bring issues up. Chancellor Reilly notes that it is critical to support and graduate NSHE's graduate students. Ms. Park also notes she would like to see more items focus on graduate students at the Board of Regents meetings.

Hannah Jackson raises the issue of sexual assault and harassment on campus and the mandatory trainings for all employees and student employees. The group discusses the effectiveness of online training and suggests in-person trainings are more powerful. Ms. Jackson suggests that if a contract for the training will be considered soon, in-person training should be considered. Chair Roys also agrees that online trainings are not as powerful as in-person. Nicola Opfer also speaks about how NSC has online training only and that she believes that it is not fully preparing student workers to face real world situations.

Chair Page asks if the campuses have the "green dot" program, and Vice Chair Geddes suggests that the NSA as a group could raise issues for the Board's new Safety Committee in the form of a resolution to the new committee chair, outline the points raised today so that they could be placed on a committee agenda.

Chair Page asks about security at UNLV. Chair Roys explains that UNLV is working actively to address issues, including new lighting and an independent security but there is frustration that things are moving too slowly. He understands things have to go out to bid. Chair Page understands the bidding process but suggests things need to move faster.

Chair Roys asks if there are any plans, discussion or BDRs pursuing more need-based financial aid. Chancellor Reilly notes that the Governor's Budget includes funding for the Millennium Scholarship and the Promise Scholarship. Mr. Flores and Vice Chancellor Abba also note other items for possible funding including recommendations from the AB 202 committee. Chair Roys notes that the NSA is planning to support summer school funding staying in the budget.

**3. DISCUSSION OF AND POSSIBLE ACTION FOR POSSIBLE ACTION
ON THE TUITION GUARANTEE PROPOSALS
PRESENTED TO THE NEVADA BOARD OF REGENTS**

Chair Roys opens the discussion on the tuition guarantee proposals notes that the NSA is not planning on taking action today and will revisit at a later meeting.

Nicola Opfer notes that NSC has mostly nontraditional, first generation, part-time students. With these demographics, Option B is preferable for students at NSC.

Andrew Sierra explains that he represents nontraditional, homeless students at the system's largest institution, and expresses that Option A disregards students at his institution. He believes that this option is not taking into consideration all socioeconomic levels.

Rachael Holderread says TMCC has the same situation with most students working two jobs.

Stephanie Molina expresses support for Option B because it applies to graduate students because many programs take longer than four years. Option B allows graduate students and departments to plan and budget for the future.

Chair Page states that the Board will want the NSA's input at next Board of Regents meeting. Vice Chair Geddes indicates it would be helpful to have a resolution, position statement or letter from the NSA for the Regents' meeting.

Vice Chancellor Abba responds to questions regarding the process under Options A and B and examples of how they would apply students under both options.

Chair Roys notes that NSHE institutions have to serve Nevada's population, many of whom will take more than the traditional two or four years to complete.

Becky Linville would like a resolution or letter that includes an explanation that part-time students are part-time for a reason with family and other obligations. Under Option A, they get two years and a "cushion" but then are back to same place they were with a big jump in cost. They cannot go fulltime, and the proposal will not change or incentivize this fact or improve graduation rates.

Chair Roys asks members to send language him that they would like to see in a draft resolution.

4. NEW BUSINESS INFORMATION

Chair Roys says there will be a resolution or joint letter on the tuition guarantee proposals for the next meeting.

Nicola Opfer asks about changing the January 18th date of the next meeting since that is the day of a special meeting for the Board of Regents. Allison Combs indicates that is possible and Chair Roys says that he will send out possible dates to consider rescheduling.

Clarissa Bradley and Hannah Jackson would like a resolution on sexual assault, safety, and priorities for the Board's new Safety Committee.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

INFORMATION

Clarissa Bradley notes that she spoke to the Board's Investment Committee about divestment and impacts of climate change.

MEETING IS ADJOURNED AT 5:40 PM.