



MEETING MINUTES
NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)

AGENDA
February 10, 2023
9:00 AM

Via Video-Teleconference

Meeting Link:

[https://nshe-nevada-
edu.zoom.us/j/96841180602?pwd=MjZXNEY1WVpYMXZ4U2pJV2JVbkdozd09&from
=addon](https://nshe-nevada-edu.zoom.us/j/96841180602?pwd=MjZXNEY1WVpYMXZ4U2pJV2JVbkdozd09&from=addon)

Meeting ID

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THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA REMOTE TECHNOLOGY SYSTEM (VIDEO-TELECONFERENCE) ONLY PURSUANT TO NRS 241.023. THERE WILL BE NO PHYSICAL LOCATION FOR THE MEETING.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY HEAR, OBSERVE, AND PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING VIA THE MEETING LINK OR TELEPHONE NUMBER IDENTIFIED ABOVE.

PUBLIC COMMENT MAY ALSO BE SUBMITTED BY PRERECORDED MESSAGE BEFORE 4:30 P.M. ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023, VIA EMAIL TO TCASERTO@NSHE.NEVADA.EDU OR VOICEMAIL: (775) 784-3442. MESSAGES RECEIVED BY 4:30 P.M. ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023, WILL BE ENTERED INTO THE RECORD DURING THE MEETING.

MEMBERS:

Dionne Stanfill, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN (Chair) Present
Yvette Machado, College of Southern Nevada, ASCSN (Secretary) Present
Chanikan Buntha, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA Present
Tessa Espinosa, Nevada State College, NSSA Present
Matthew Hawn, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA Present
Kevin Leon-Martinez, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN Present
Suzanna Stankute, Western Nevada College, ASWN Present
Zachary Stamp, Great Basin College, SGA Present
Nicole Thomas, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA Tardy 9:03
Office Vacant, Desert Research Institute, GRAD

Public & Guests:

Lynda King – NSHE Associate General Counsel
Terina Caserto – NSHE Sr. Analyst
Dale Erquiaga – NSHE Chancellor
Alejandro Rodriguez – NSHE Director of Government Relations
Becca Franssen – TMCC SGA Advisor

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.

The agenda and any supporting material, including materials submitted after the posting of this agenda but before the meeting, may be accessed on the Internet by visiting the NSA page of the NSHE website:

<https://nshe.nevada.edu/system-administration/departments/asa/students/nevada-student-alliance/>, or by calling Terina Caserto in the NSHE Office of Academic and Student Affairs, 2601 Enterprise Road, Reno, NV 89512, at (775) 784-3442, or emailing her at tcaserto@nshe.nevada.edu. Any supporting materials provided to members of the NSA at the meeting will be posted to the NSA website within 24 hours after the conclusion of the meeting.

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) 784-3442 so that arrangements may be made.

Call to order at 9:01 a.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Roll call of members and any persons serving as a proxy for a member will be taken and any members of the public that are present may be asked to identify themselves verbally so their names may be recorded in the minutes.

A quorum was established.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

INFORMATION ONLY

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.

Pursuant to NRS 241.023, members of the public may also participate in the meeting by submitting prerecorded public comment messages via email to tcaserto@nshe.nevada.edu or voicemail: (775) 784-3442. Messages received by 4:30 p.m. on THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023, will be entered into the record during the meeting.

In accordance with Attorney General Opinion No. 00-047 (April 27, 2001), 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.

There was no public comment.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Request is made for the approval of the minutes for the NSA meetings held on December 1 and 2, 2022.

Yvette Machado: Motion to approve

Matthew Hawn: Second

Discussion: None

Motion: Unanimous Approval

4. DISCUSSION WITH BOARD OF REGENTS CHAIR

INFORMATION ONLY

Board of Regents Chair Byron Brooks will meet with NSA members to share his priorities as Chair of the Board of Regents including aspirations and concerns for the higher education system.

Chair Stanfill pulled the item from agenda as Chair Brooks was unable to attend the meeting.

5. DISCUSSION WITH THE CHANCELLOR

INFORMATION ONLY

NSA members will meet with Acting Chancellor Dale Erquiaga. They will learn of the Chancellor's priorities and share updates from their respective institutions.

Chancellor Erquiaga provided the following updates:

The committee for the ad hoc Chancellor Search met last Friday. The process is underway for the committee and advisory members to build the position profile, timeline, and scope of the search. The legislative session is underway, and the Governor's recommended budget looks very good for NSHE. Some of the Capital projects did not get approved but most of the operating budget items were approved. Upcoming dates for NSHE groups at the legislature were mentioned.

Questions:

Dionne Stanfill asked what the priorities are for the session.

Chancellor: The NSHE priority is to hold what is the recommended budget (from an operations standpoint). Individual institutions will make their cases for their buildings/capital improvement projects.

Kevin Leon-Martinez asked if the Regents have a position on AB81, regarding open carry of guns on campus.

Chancellor: The Regents have not discussed that bill, which fall outside of the existing policy framework; existing NSHE policies will be followed.

Matthew Hawn asked about carrying out a study for NSHE as a whole and what the role of the Chancellor and the Regents would be in that study?

Chancellor: The Governor has put money in the budget for a funding formula study, as well as a management and operations study. Currently, the funding formula rewards weighted student credit hours, with certain degrees and disciplines being compensated at a higher level; it is a 'look-back' formula. It will be reviewed to determine what is working and what is not. On the operations and management side, self-supporting budgets, transparency, and other issues will also be reviewed. We will participate in the conversations and help craft the language as best we can.

Nicole Thomas asked if we will be receiving a general list of bills that NSHE is supporting and is not supporting.

Chancellor: A list will be provided; Alejandro Rodriguez will explain how that works and how we will share information with constituency groups.

6. **DISCUSSION WITH NSHE DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**

INFORMATION ONLY

NSA members will meet with NSHE Director of Government Relations Alejandro Rodriguez. They will learn about the Director's role, information of the 82nd Session of the Nevada Legislature, and ways in which the System and NSA may engage in the legislative process.

Chair Stanfill introduced Alejandro Rodriguez.

Director Rodriguez introduced himself and discussed how he coordinates with each institution as one voice and one NSHE. Each institution will also advocate for their individual priorities. He will be tracking bills that touch on higher education and testifying according to NSHE policy or notify the Board of Regents if bills are outside of policy. Student voice is very important; the legislators want to hear from students and be made aware of their concerns. NELIS is a personal legislative tracker that students can sign up for; it helps track certain bills. There are opportunities for students to testify or submit written comments.

Question: Is the “State of the System” a traditional address (similar to the “State of the State”) and will students be invited to attend it?

Rodriguez: It consists of presentations done by the two policy committees in the early part of the session (before hearing some bills). They will ask for the priorities, services that NSHE is providing, and touch on the NSHE strategic plan. It will be a hearing consisting of a 20-minute presentation followed by legislator questions. Because NSHE cannot present its own bills, this provides an opportunity for legislators to learn about NSHE policy and its strategic plan.

Question: Are legislators critical of the leadership turnover in NSHE?

Rodriguez: In the last session, SJR 7, which would remove the constitutional authority for NSHE, was discussed. It is coming back and NSHE is opposed to it, as well as a bill to reduce the number of Regents and their term limits. There are new legislators, and we are taking the opportunity to have a fresh start and educate them.

Question: Can NSHE not propose its own bills?

Rodriguez: That is correct; each legislator has a certain number of BDR’s to submit. Certain agencies have certain number of BDR’s but not NSHE.

Question: Is there a deadline for submitting BDR’s?

Rodriguez: Yes, the deadlines are in NELIS.

7. ELECTION OF NSA VICE CHAIR

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

NSA will conduct an election to fill the vacant position of Vice Chair. NSHE Senior Analyst Terina Caserto will provide a summary of the process for electing an NSA Vice Chair, and NSA Chair Dionne Stanfill will facilitate the election process. NSA members or any person serving as a proxy for a member may make nominations.

Senior Analyst Caserto explained that the former Vice Chair resigned from the position and the newly elected Vice Chair will hold term through the end of this NSA year.

Secretary Machado self-nominated, then withdrew her self-nomination after clarification of the rules from Lynda King, NSHE Associate General Counsel.

Matthew Hawn nominated Susanna Stankute, who did not accept the nomination.

Chanikan Buntha and Tessa Espinosa self-nominated.
Each candidate discussed their qualifications and took questions.
Chair Stanfill opened the vote for deliberation.
A roll call vote was taken, with seven votes for Buntha and two votes for Espinosa.
Chanikan Buntha was elected as Vice Chair.

**8. UPDATE REGARDING THE APPROVED NSA RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AMENDING THE BOARD OF REGENTS INFORMATION ONLY
HANDBOOK TO ALLOW THE NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE CHAIR ACCESS
TO THE AGENDA**

Chair Stanfill will update NSA members on developments following passage of the NSA approved Resolution in Support of Amending the Board of Regents *Handbook* to Allow the Nevada Student Alliance Chair Access to the Board's Agenda, including a debrief with respect to feedback that transpired from the December 1-2, 2022, Board of Regents' meeting agenda item on this topic.

Chair Stanfill updated the members on discussions.

Kevin Leon-Martinez and Yvette Machado may be drafting resolutions at their respective institutions and provide supporting data.

Suzanna Stankute has met with a newly elected Regent Brown, who is supportive; she would like to move forward.

Chair Stanfill noted that passing resolutions in respective governments and performing outreach with constituencies would be helpful with moving this legislative priority forward.

Tessa Espinosa asked what kind of preparation ASUN did beforehand and what evidence led to the conclusions. It would be helpful to have more statistics and research prepared in advance to answer the Regents' questions.

Chair Stanfill noted that much research and outreach was done at UNR, which contributed to the NSA passing its resolution. In the future, it would be helpful to present more tangible research and concrete data with the request to the Board of Regents.

9. MEMBER UPDATES INFORMATION ONLY

Members may provide an update regarding their respective campuses' planned activities and events, including, but not limited to, activities pertaining to the 82nd Session of the Nevada Legislature.

Each member provided updates from their respective institutions.

10. NSA CHAIR UPDATE INFORMATION ONLY

Chair Stanfill will provide an update on the objectives and goals of NSA for the 2022-23 year.

No Chair update was given.

11. NEW BUSINESS

INFORMATION ONLY

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, and no substantive discussion may occur at this meeting on new business items in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law (NRS 241.010 *et seq.*).

Tessa Espinosa requested a future business item for the March 9 NSA meeting: a discussion regarding NSA support of the Nevada State College name change.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

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There was no public comment.
The meeting adjourned at 10:39 a.m.

Posted at the following locations:

CSN, Building D, 1st Floor, 6375 W. Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89146-1124
DRI, Maxey Building, 2215 Raggio Parkway, Reno, NV 89512-1095
DRI, Southern Nevada Science Center, 755 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89119-7363
GBC, Berg Hall, 1500 College Parkway, Elko, NV 89801
NSC, Great Hall, 1125 Nevada State Drive, Henderson, NV 89015
TMCC, Red Mountain Building (RDMT 200) 7000 Dandini Blvd. Reno, NV 89512
UNLV, Flora Dungan Humanities 9 (FDH), 1st and 7th Floors, 4505 Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89154-1001
UNR, Clark Administration, University of Nevada, Reno, Reno, NV 89557
WNC, Bristlecone Building Lobby, 2201 W. College Parkway, Carson City, NV 89703

System Administration, 4300 S. Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89119-7530

System Administration, 2601 Enterprise Road, Reno, NV 89512

Nevada Public Notice Website Pursuant to NRS 232.2175 - <https://notice.nv.gov/>

NSHE Website <https://nshe.nevada.edu/system-administration/departments/asa/students/nevada-student-alliance/>