

Meeting Minutes September 5th, 2024



NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)

**AGENDA
SEPTEMBER 5, 2024**

7:00 a.m.

Western Nevada College
2201 West College Parkway, Carson City
Bristlecone Building, Room 344

MEMBERS:

- P Kevin Osorio Hernández, Nevada State University, NSSA (Chair)**
- Excused Absence Dawson Deal, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN (Vice Chair)**
- P Janeth Vences-Balvas, College of Southern Nevada, ASCSN (Secretary)**
- P Tania Akter, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA**
- P Lisha Allison, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA**
- P Allister Dias, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN**
- P Teresa Marie, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA**
- Unexcused Absence Miguel Sison, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUNSOM**
- Excused Absence Allison VanHolder, Great Basin College, SGA**
- P Catalina Wilson, Western Nevada College, ASWN**
- Office Vacant, Desert Research Institute, GRAD**

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 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.

Chair Osorio Hernandez calls the meeting to order at 7:03am.

1. ROLL CALL

Roll call of members and any persons serving as a proxy for a member will be taken.

Estimated Time: 5 minutes

Secretary Vences-Balvas takes roll call. Quorum present with 7 members.

Also Present:

- Carrie Parker- NSHE
- Lahana Pearce – Nevada State University
- Heather Rikalo – WNC ASWN
- Benny Buchanan – WNC ASWN
- Lahaina Eitomin – WNC ASWN
- Elena Guzman Salas – WNC ASWN
- Emily Sanchez – WNC ASWN
- Jane Neitz-Singleton – CSN ASCSN
- Griffen Farrer – NSU
- Alejandro Rodriguez – NSHE
- Kyle Dolpe – WNC
- Becca Franssen – TMCC
- Logan McAlister WNC
- Terina Caserto - NSHE

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 two 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. Members of the public may attend the meeting and provide public comment.

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.

Estimated Time: 5 minutes

- Terina C.: no online options for public comment for this meeting
- Terina C.: no public comment was received electronically

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Request is made for the approval of the minutes for the NSA meeting held on August 9, 2024.

1st; Sec. Vences-Balvas

2nd: Teresa Marie

Minutes approved through a majority vote.

4. CIVIC ENGAGEMENT LETTER TO BOARD AND NSHE PRESIDENTS

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

NSA Chair will present a drafted letter to NSA members outlining the importance of campus civic engagement focusing on the 2024 General Election. The letter may be shared during the NSA Chair's Report to the Board of Regents later that day, as well as forwarded to each NSHE President. The NSA will discuss the proposed letter and may suggest revisions or modifications. The letter may be approved at this meeting or returned at a subsequent meeting for formal action by the NSA. (*Ref. NSA-4*)

Chair Osorio-Hernandez discusses the letter in the attachment sent via email will be addressed. The goal for Kevin's NSA time is the students' commitment to civic engagement. The letter was discussed as not a performative act but as committed to students' commitment. In addition, the letter should allow students to be part election workers vs. saying sharing a report, president's office or someone in leadership or the Student Body Presidents to work closely with the president.

Chair Kevin read the letter.

Edits or suggestions to the letter.

Teresa Marie – CLD committee for UNLV, stated that it's good to expand to other schools to get involved.

Allister Diaz—Having a collective in democracy is important; having students get democratically engaged in their campus and community is important, and this is something that impacts students.

Janeth Vences-Balvas – CSN is a dual enrolled school and having high schools involved would allow for them to partake in a job due to working as election workers.

Chair Osorio-Hernandez – asked how to proceed with the motion and what needs to be added as an amendment

Teresa Marie – suggested amendments.

Carie Parker: The involvement of the presidents and how the student body presidents will work with the president's office.

Teresa Marie—There is a civil engagement committee on campus; the learning and leadership department works independently. Allister is also part of the committee. Adding the president to get involved may result in more hands in a pot that may become more confusing.

Chair Osorio-Hernandez- Asked how collaboration with presidents would work?

Teresa Marie – Getting the presidents involved and including on-campus events specifically for voter registration; she doesn't want to cause any backup in the process.

Chair Osorio-Hernandez – Asked about how the backup process would occur.

Teresa Marie- explained how the process works at UNLV.

Kevin- Is there any process at UNLV for the current presidents?

Terina Caserto: Activities will fall under the VP of Student Affairs to advise of the activities on campus.

Teresa Marie– Instead of having the language to the President, include language to higher education leadership.

Carie Parker: – Changing the terminology of the letter; each student body will report back to the NSA with what was most effective at the institution; ‘This will allow us to co-create best practices.

Lisha Allison – Voter engagement at her campus goes through her advisor and does not involve other parties on her campus.

Motion:

Kevin asked to change the 5th bullet point to encourage students to volunteer or work as election workers.

Edit language within the second to the last paragraph as: Each student government body president will be reporting back to the Nevada Student Alliance post-election pertaining to the civic engagement initiatives that have been most effective at your institution. This will help us all co-create best practices as we continue to work together to make civic engagement a cornerstone of our campus communities.

1st Teresa Marie – motion to include the edits as specified.

2nd Tania Akter

Approved Kevin Osorio Hernández, Nevada State University, NSSA (Chair)

Excused Absence Dawson Deal, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN (Vice Chair)

Approved Janeth Vences-Balvas, College of Southern Nevada, ASCSN (Secretary)

Approved Tania Akter, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA

Approved Lisha Allison, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA

Approved Allister Dias, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN

Approved Teresa Marie, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA

Unexcused Absence Miguel Sison, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUNSOM

Excused Absence Allison VanHolder, Great Basin College, SGA

Approved Catalina Wilson, Western Nevada College, ASWN

Office Vacant, Desert Research Institute, GRAD

Motion passes with majority vote.

5. MEMBER UPDATES

INFORMATION ONLY

Members may provide information on the goals of their respective student governments and updates regarding their respective campuses’ planned activities and events.

Estimated Time: 5 minutes

Tania Akter : Starting the semester; 27-Aug first meeting; Filled most of the vacant council seats and starting 01-Aug started reviewing graduate travel grant; had professional development on 03-Sept and 04 Sept; Furniture drive ongoing.

Allister Diaz; UNLV CSUN; Latinx events through service learning office; teaching of Hispanic leaders and having leaders of the Las Vegas Valley for showcasing; Sept-Oct CSUN is working with volunteerism such as Red Rock and SLA office for causes they feel confident in such as the expansion of voter registration and information.

Catalina Wilson: Blood drive 03-Sept; passed out ice cream on campus, and they had a good turnout; next week is welcome back weeks with food and activities; club and career fair next Wed; following week will have voter registration and constitution information day; Willies Bday (turns 21) and Dinosaur themed birthday party with polaroids with the mascot. At the end of the month, there will be October Fest.

Teresa Marie—Started the initiative with Athletics to build a graduate community on campus. Other partners have begun working with them, and there will be tabling with them and working on a night at the symphony for non-traditional students. Students can bring family and friends to the event, which will expand and build a sense of community 18-Sept, football game against Fresno in September.

Lisha Allison: Sept 17th; whole day event for spirit day with lots of student interaction and foster culture on campus. On October 1st pastries with the presidents happening and there will be free food. That same day they will have a blood drive and national coming out date on 10-Oct. with free food and an event on campus.

Janeth Vences-Balvas: Reported on CSN club rush events actively occurring and welcome back events happening at all 3 main campuses in the next few weeks. Voter Registration push will be done in Sept. and Oct. Pizza with the Presidents event is in the works for late Sept.

Chair Osorio-Hernandez: 3 weeks of welcome week events last week. There have a senate of 23 members, and currently at 16 members. They will be working on a service project, PB&J and will be working on feeding the homeless of the tunnels in Las Vegas. Community socials will be ongoing, and how to interact with different organizations around town.

6. NSA CHAIR UPDATE AND REPORT

INFORMATION ONLY

The NSA Chair will provide an update on his work with the NSA and information regarding the contents of the Chair's Report that may be delivered to the Board of Regents at their September 5-6, 2024, meeting.

Chair Osorio-Hernandez: NSA member updates; letter of approval from NSA meeting and tying of civic engagement. Experience on the hill will be shared with the Board.

7. 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.*).

No new business

8. PUBLIC COMMENT**INFORMATION ONLY**

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No Public Comment

Adjournment at 7:32 AM

Posted in accordance with Nevada Open Meeting Law (NRS Ch. 241), 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 - <https://notice.nv.gov>

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



**NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE
NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

RE: Civic Engagement Letter to NSHE Presidents and Regents

September 5th, 2024

Dear NSHE Presidents:

As student leaders and elected representatives of our respective institutions, we are committed to ensuring a focus and robust culture of civic engagement surrounding Nevada's campuses. Today's students are not just the leaders of tomorrow—they are the voters of today. As pillars of leadership within Nevada's higher education system, your commitment to fostering civic engagement is both recognized and deeply appreciated. Nevada's campuses are becoming vibrant centers of democratic participation, thanks in large part to the dedication and vision of institutions like yours.

Your ongoing efforts to cultivate informed and active student voters are essential in maintaining a healthy and thriving democracy. The Nevada Student Alliance looks forward to continuing our partnership with you to further our shared goal of embedding civic engagement into the very fabric of campus life.

In support of these efforts, we submit to you initiatives that encourage voter engagement:

- **Encourage On-Campus Voting:** Promote voting among students, faculty, and staff by making on-campus voting opportunities widely known and accessible.
- **Coordinate a Campus-Specific Campaign:** Implement an informational campaign tailored to your campus that educates the community on election dates and the importance of participation.
- **Celebrate National Voter Registration Day:** Participate in National Voter Registration Day on September 17th, ensuring that every eligible student has the opportunity to register.
- **Join the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge:** Demonstrate your institution's commitment by enrolling in the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge, which aims to assist campuses increase student voter turnout. Currently, Nevada State University, Truckee Meadows Community College, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and the University of Nevada, Reno are enrolled with ALL IN Campus Democracy.

- **Encourage Your Campus Community to Volunteer:** Promote opportunities for students, faculty, and staff to volunteer as election workers and contribute to the voting process.

To further strengthen our collective impact, each student government president will report back to the Nevada Student Alliance post-election on the civic engagement initiatives that have been most effective at your institution. This will help us all co-create best practices as we continue to work together to make civic engagement a cornerstone of our campus communities.

Thank you for your leadership and unwavering commitment to this cause. We look forward to our continued collaboration in empowering Nevada's students as active participants in democracy.

Sincerely,

Nevada Student Alliance