



NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)
MEETING MINUTES

AGENDA
March 7, 2025
7:30 a.m.

Nevada State University
Rogers Student Center Room 303
1300 Nevada State Drive, Henderson

Call to order: 7:30 a.m.

MEMBERS:

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

Guests:

Elizabeth Walsh
Shay Brovo-Bezard
James Kendall
Lahana Pearce
Amy Carvalho- Board of Regents Chair
Jeffery Downs- Board of Regents Vice Chair
Patricia Charlton – Chancellor
Liesel Kemmelmeier
Luisa Bautista
Kennedy Taylor
Destanee Cachucha
Laisha Ortiz
Lynda King- NSHE
Terina Caserto – NSHE
Ashley Salisbury – NSHE

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.

1. ROLL CALL

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

Roll call taken, quorum established.

Estimated Time: 5 minutes

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.

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.

Lahana Pearce, Vice President of NSSA at NSU – I want to take a moment to express my strong support of Luisa Bautista as is considered for nomination to serve on the Task Force for Power Based Violence. Luisa has shown an unwavering commitment to advocating for students and ensuring our campus is safe, inclusive space for all. Addressing power-based violence on our campus requires collaboration and student voices at the table and Luisa embodies that commitment and I urge you all to stand behind her as she steps up to serve. Thank you.

Estimated Time: 5 minutes

3. **NSA RECOMMENDATION OF STUDENT MEMBER FOR POSSIBLE ACTION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE TASK FORCE ON POWER BASED VIOLENCE AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

NSA Chair will discuss [Assembly Bill 245 of the 2023 Nevada State Legislative Session](#) and its creation of the Task Force on Power Based Violence at Institutions of Higher Education.

Assembly Bill 245 requires the Board of Regents to consult with the NSA regarding the appointment of two eligible student members, one from a community college and one from a university. NRS 396.141(1)(c)(5) – (6). NSA will discuss the following recommendation and possibly take action to forward the recommendation to the Board of Regents for consideration of formal appointment to the Task Force.

- Luisa Bautista, NSU

Chair waits a moment for Luisa to be present.

Chair opens the item and explains the appointment to the Task Force

Luisa Bautista gives comments regarding her motivation and qualifications to be nominated to the task force.

Chair opens floor for questions.

Vences-Balvas – directed to Luisa, asks what makes her eligible for this role and if she has had any experience with power-based violence or as a communicator between students and faculty?

Bautista – affirms has had experience with violence at the high school.

Vences-Balvas – it is her understanding that there are two nominations for appointment.

Chair – Yes, but only one nomination for the agenda item. The only nomination that was through NSU and no other nomination by a president was made by the deadline, February 17. And so we only have one nomination.

Rodriguez-Serrano - So, she is representing both the community college and university.

Chair – would like to hand that question over to Terina Caserto or Lynda King, but it is understood that this nomination was for the spot that is for the community college and state university.

Caserto- that is correct.

Chair calls for additional questions.

Motion to approve the recommendation of Luisa Bautista: Dias

Second: L. Allison

Discussion: No additional discussion

Vote: Roll Call

Yes: Osorio-Hernández, Deal, Vences-Balvas, Akter, L. Allison, Dias, T. Marie, Wilson

No: Vences-Balvas

Abstain: Serrano Rodriguez

Motion passes.

(Ref. NSA-3)

Estimated Time: 15 minutes

4. **DISCUSSION WITH BOARD OFFICERS AND NSHE INTERIM CHANCELLOR**

INFORMATION ONLY

NSA members will have the opportunity to have an open dialogue with the officers of the Board of Regents, Chair Amy Carvalho and Vice-Chair Jeff Downs, and Interim Chancellor Patricia Charlton. The discussion will include student experiences, concerns of their constituents, and other matters related to their roles in student government.

L. Allison – asks the Chancellor what processes are being done to respond to the federal changes and the protocol of what is happening.

Chancellor – explains how the communication works within the System office. Watching on a national federal lens is the federal budget and how that impacts the state. As we receive letters from administration, they are reviewed with the legal office and policy leaders and campuses at well. First, we review for what is in the communication and what it may mean. Then we have ongoing communication with the federal delegation and even the attorney general. We also reach out to professional organizations. We are very interested in what is happening with the Secretary of Education and the plan for the future of the Dept of Ed. We work with the Attorney General office on an injunction. A lot of it is moving through agencies and process. And keep informed.

Wilson – what is a piece of advice for the NSA members as they move out of their roles?

Board Chair, Amy Carvalho – to continue to be engaged, watch the Board, keep us accountable, speak up in public comment, continue to support and be a resource for those coming after you. It is important to have a citizenry to know what is going on, speak to those of what you know to be higher education, amplify those voices, it means a lot.

Board Vice Chair, Jeffrey Downs – Keeping an open mind, keep core convictions and work with that but get an understanding of the bigger pictures within the system. Not everything is going to be down the middle but a mixture of that. Align a path that makes sense to you and your core values. Listen to both sides, don't draw conclusions, don't judge without listening first.

Chancellor Charlton – it can be overwhelming sometimes stepping into new roles, be a mentor to those coming behind you, continue to be involved, you have a lot to contribute. Your voices as students carry the weight.

Vences-Balvas – do we have updates from legal counsel or NSHE on the undocumented students and the leadership roles. CSN is on hold of what they would like to do with their student government bylaws that are waiting for direction.

L. King – Carrie Parker has taken the feedback from the meeting and worked on a recommendation to give to the Chancellor. It is a work in progress that January 20 interrupted. Carrie has worked with VC Archer and working on a recommendation to move to the Chancellor.

T. Marie – it is my understanding that if you are undocumented you cannot be a Graduate Assistant. And you cannot be in Workday if you are undocumented. But there is a difference between DACA and undocumented. Is there something that can be worked on regarding the differences? There needs to be some documentation provided from the System level on this.

L. King – she is predicting that the institution general counsels will have to make a determination. Yes, there is a confusion with DACA and undocumented, but this is a right to work issue. If there is confusion on your campus between DACA and undocumented, to work with legal counsel.

Chancellor – and make sure it is consistent within the institution.

Carvalho – it is my understanding that at a System level, we were trying to create policy that all institutions need to be doing the same thing.

L. King – we will find a baseline of what is legal and not legal, but then within that it may be at the discretion of the institution but there will be guidelines of what can and cannot be done.

Carvalho – yes, I agree with that.

Chair – with the various campuses, and how the students across the system are experiencing a great deal of burden of the purple rhetoric of what is being spread across the System and the nation, and the fear of some showing up in public spaces. It is important to highlight this. There are inconsistencies across the System of how we are able to insulate our campuses for these particular students and entities. There are some student governments that are unable to access direct line of communication and set paths of what to do if ICE comes to campus. I would hope that as we continue these discussions it doesn't end at this table and moves into the next few years. Chancellor, can you provide your perspective of the conversations we have had with NSA.

Chancellor – we do work and follow the law, that has to be clear. Our campuses are open, which is different than K-12. But we have processes that institutions do already. There is a process already set and work with our counsels. For example if ICE comes with a warrant – the campuses have a process for that already for the counsels. One of the concerns that is raised is that the registrars and campuses would give out information. And that isn't happening, there are laws in place already that they cannot. We know that our population is very rich in minority, we are a majority minority system and open and accessible to all. We do not know what is on the horizons. But we have set a tone that this system is a good place.

Deal -- about making sure the conversations continue, I am hoping there is an effort by the Board to increase communication and outreach especially with funding from the legislature. It is important to lend the perspective.

Carvalho – agree, that to do our job we need to be on campus and know what is going on. She encourages them to be on campus and attend events. As the Chair and a Regent, I am telling the Regents they need to be on campus and engaged with students. To continue to say that. Encourages NSA members to reach out to Regents.

Downs - supports them to be engaged as possible. It is part of the role to engage with students and faculty and others. It should be across the Board that it is valuable input to be there. We have a diverse group of Regents with varied backgrounds but there is more input they can get from students and faculty.

Vences- Balvas – will there be any additional guidance to the legal counsels regarding Know your Rights. At CSN their legal counsel has said it is obstruction of justice. These are constitutional rights. It is imperative that Legal and Chancellor and Board make sure we are aligned as some

campuses are doing these sessions. But at CSN we have to find a work-around. These are constitutional rights.

L. King – I do not know of any campus has performed at Know Your Rights session. As an attorney, my client is the Board or is an institution or System, not an individual's attorney. Therefore, I cannot stand up and advise students what their constitutional rights are. But I can provide context and examples of what can and cannot be done. That doesn't prevent you as a student government organization having someone come provide a session for you. There are a lot of resources there. The attorneys cannot provide individual's advice but can get the right information and resources to them.

Chancellor – I will also communicate with the institutional presidents as well.

T. Marie – UNLV did one with the ACLU and the Immigration Clinic and counsel may not be in support of that but as student governments we are not the institution. That is why we are separated in the NRS. And if a student government wishes to reach out to support their students, it is an option.

Chancellor – several institutions in the south (Nevada) have long partnerships with the Immigration Clinic. ACLU information is publicly available as well.

Estimated Time: 15 minutes

5. 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.*).

Chair - For the next round of new leaders – to fill the University slot on the Task Force for Power Based Violence.

Estimated Time: 5 minutes

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

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Estimated Time: 5 minutes

Liesel Kemmelmeier, serve as the undergraduate student body vice president at UNR. I am a senior and my last NSA meeting to attend. Hopefully pursuing my master's in public admin and policy and really passionate about higher education government and how we continue public service at the state level. Last couple of years understanding the Board of Regents, and there are a few patterns that are fixable. One is helping them understand that the burden of outreach should not fall on student body presidents. We are invited to an event, that is great, we love it, but it is more formal and preset and may not be based around candid interaction and is usually related to community. There may be little the Chair can do in statute to force outreach but maybe setting outreach standards as we do with our own senate to show how they have gone out of their way to attend certain things. I think ultimately as Regents going outside of the box and going to campus and talk to students. There are 110,000 in the NSHE System and only one tenth as staff. We are privileged to be at these meetings and the Board quarterly, but that is inherently unacceptable. But we get time off of class and work to be here. Encourage you in the next year to think outside of the box and expand the status quo you are elected officials of the state. I always appreciate the work of the NSA and the discussions but instead of thinking of things that limit your student outreach, it is having to expand the pool and interactions. Thank you.

Allister Dias – take time to recognize this is the last NSA meeting and want to thank you from the bottom of my heart to everyone here. It has been a long year. I am honored to have served alongside of all of you and think you all do wonderful work for your campuses. I am excited to see where you guys go. I want to give a very special thank you to Terina and the rest of our NSA staff for making these meetings possible. I also want to say thank you to our Regents for a great year and giving us guidance and a trajectory for our respective institutions. Thank you.

Teresa Marie – echo President Dias said. I have learned so much in the last two years. From Nicole and then stepping in and being elected. I didn't know who the Board of Regents were until I came back to UNLV as a Ph.D. student and didn't know what that was as an undergrad. So all you undergrads here you are amazing and I have a lot of respect for what you have accomplished. I hope you continue to stick with your leadership roles, I know you are going to do amazing things. And I want to thank our Chair, Vice, Chair, Chancellor and staff who have made this process such a good learning experience for all of us and are very candid when they have discussion with all of us, because you may want to shield students from what is going on but you do tell us. Thank you.

Adjourned at 8:20 a.m.

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/>

Task Force on Power Based Violence Questions

Biography

Luisa Bautista is a freshman at Nevada State University, majoring in speech-language pathology. Throughout her academic career, she has held numerous leadership roles, including serving as senior class president during her final year of high school and being involved in student council since her junior year. Currently, she serves as a freshman senator in the Nevada State Student Alliance (NSSA) and is an active member of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee, where she plays a role in shaping NSSA's Constitution. She is deeply committed to representing the voices of students in need, addressing their concerns, and advocating for their well-being.

How do they represent a relevant group or organization?

As a freshman senator in NSSA and a member of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee, I am actively involved in shaping the policies and governing structures that affect students at Nevada State University. My dedication to ensuring that students feel safe extends beyond addressing physical threats like shootings, but also encompasses addressing various forms of power-based violence.

I have seen firsthand the lasting emotional impact power-based violence can leave on communities. My twin sister, who attends UNLV, began her studies a year after the tragic shooting on campus and has witnessed the ongoing fear and anxiety many students experience. But beyond this, my commitment stems from wanting to address all forms of harm, such as violence based on gender identity, sexual orientation, or intimate relationships. I have attended Board of Regents meetings to give public comments in support of initiatives that improve student safety and well-being, and I've consistently advocated for students who feel unheard or vulnerable.

What is their commitment to the task force?

My commitment to the Task Force on Power-Based Violence stems from a deep dedication to creating campuses where students feel secure in all aspects of their lives, free from threats of power-based violence. As a speech-language pathology

major, I have always been willing to listen to people and help bridge communication gaps, ensuring that everyone's voice is heard. This willingness to listen and understand aligns perfectly with the task force's mission to address the needs of victims and ensure that no one suffers in silence.

As a leader and advocate, I want to address all forms of interpersonal violence—whether that's dating violence, domestic violence, gender-based violence, sexual harassment, stalking, or other types of abuse that students experience on campus. My goal is to protect students from these dangers and ensure there are no barriers to education. Additionally, my younger brother's experience with shooting drills in elementary school emphasizes the need for protecting students at every level, but it's also critical to address the quieter, often unseen forms of violence like domestic abuse and harassment that can deeply affect students' lives.

As a side note, my dedication to campus safety extends back to high school, where I successfully intervened to stop a couple of violent incidents from breaking out. I will bring this same commitment to conflict resolution and safety to the task force, working toward a future where power-based violence is effectively addressed across all educational institutions. No student should face barriers when it comes to gaining an education.