



Meeting Minutes – Pending Approval

NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)

AGENDA
August 14, 2026
9:00 a.m.

Via Video-Teleconference

Meeting Link:

<https://nshe-nevada-edu.zoom.us/j/95811335006?pwd=LQfLYRodNYCrg52auYggbY3O9RFuVD.1>

One Tap Mobile:

+16699009128,,95811335006#,,,,*118772# US (San Jose)
+17193594580,,95811335006#,,,,*118772# US

Meeting ID: 958 1133 5006
Passcode: 118772

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, AUGUST 13, 2026, VIA EMAIL TO ASALISBURY@NSHE.NEVADA.EDU OR VOICEMAIL: (775) 784-3444. MESSAGES RECEIVED BY 4:30 P.M. ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2026, WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO NSA MEMBERS AND INCLUDED IN THE PERMANENT MEETING RECORD; NAMES OF THOSE WHO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT VIA EMAIL WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE MEETING; HOWEVER, MESSAGES WILL NOT BE READ INTO THE RECORD.

Chair Odunze started meeting at 9:02 am.

MEMBERS:

P Kelechi Odunze, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN (Chair)
P Dillon Moss, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN (Vice Chair)
P Stephanie Flores, Nevada State University, NSSA (Secretary)
P Brayden Boulter, College of Southern Nevada, ASCSN
P/Late Trey Curtis-Brown, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA **entered 9:12am;**
P Ratchanya Dev Chinnappan, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA
P Ozzie Tavares, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUNSOM
P Pulin Muangsiri, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA
A Storm Raine, Great Basin College, SGA
P Karla Salas, Western Nevada College, ASWN
Office Vacant, Desert Research Institute, GRAD

Guests: Terina Caserto, NSHE
Ashley Salisbury, NSHE
Carrie Parker, NSHE
Janet Stake, NSHE
Alejandro Rodriguez, NSHE
Jason Frierson, NSHE
Lindsay Couzens, NSHE
Laura Obrist, NSHE
Matt McNair, NSHE
Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman, State Treasurer's Office
Leslie Milton, State Treasurer's Office

Meets Quorum

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 Ashley Salisbury in the NSHE Office of Academic and Student Affairs at (775) 784-3444 or emailing her at asalisbury@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) 784-3444 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.

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. Members of the public may attend the meeting and provide public comment or testimony by calling any of the numbers on the first page of this agenda, including 1 669 900 9128 US, meeting ID: 958 1133 5006, passcode: 118772.

Pursuant to NRS 241.023, members of the public may also participate in the meeting by submitting written public comment messages via email to asalisbury@nshe.nevada.edu. Written statements received by 4:30 p.m. on THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2026, will be distributed to NSA members and included in the permanent meeting record and names of those who provide public comment via email will be announced at the meeting, however messages will not be read into the record. 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

No Public Comment

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Request is made for the approval of the minutes for the NSA meeting held on [July 10, 2026](#).

Estimated Time: 5 Minutes

Motion: Salas

2nd: Boulter

All in favor; passes unanimously

4. DISCUSSION WITH THE CHANCELLOR

INFORMATION ONLY

NSA members will meet with Chancellor Matt McNair or his designee to discuss current priorities, opportunities, and challenges facing the Nevada System of Higher Education. Topics may include updates on legislative priorities, federal higher education issues, and the Chancellor's recent advocacy efforts in Washington, D.C., including engagement with Nevada's federal representatives regarding the protection of federal graduate student funding.

Chair Odunze opens Item 4 at 9:06 am.

Chancellor McNair thanks us for our time. He also proceeds by introducing Vice Chancellor Frierson.

Vice Chancellor Frierson shares that one thing he relates to this group the most is that he was the former ASUN President. He also expresses how proud he is of everyone in this group. Vice Chancellor Frierson explains that the effort in legislative advocacy is about relationships, credibility, and commonality. He feels like we must coordinate and communicate the best that we can, in recognizing the practical realities of state government.

Chair Odunze thanks both Chancellor McNair and Vice Chancellor Frierson. He also asked if they can both expand on their trip to Washington DC and some things they spoke about to our federal delegation and if there is anything we as NSA can help with.

Chancellor McNair says that a handful of the topics were about economic development around national defense and security, focusing on drones. He expresses how he thinks Nevada can be ground zero for drone manufacturing and testing across the country here since we have air space. He mentioned this is something they spoke to the federal delegation about but also to all the institutions. Another thing they spoke about was rural health and workforce development since there is money available there from the federal government. They spoke about internships and apprenticeships which align closely to what the administration is currently funding. Chancellor McNair states that they tried to really align what they were talking to the delegation about to where the money is going to be, or at least to where they think it's going to be.

Vice Chancellor Frierson added that they also spoke about aerospace and the interest of Nevada being a lead. He expresses that he believes it's important for people to recognize that Nevada has a large amount of federal land and it mirrors a lot of the locations where drones can mimic engagement. He believes we are prime to be drone central for manufacturing but also for training. Vice Chancellor Frierson mentions that as we prepare for session there are a few things they are looking at, one of the first things being minimizing cuts when dealing with the budget and just monitoring that. He mentions that in the year 2007, NSHE was the only entity to lose the ability to draft its own bills, which makes NSHE dependent on legislators advocating on our behalf. He also mentioned that they submitted a list of bill drafts to the Interim Committee of Education, on statutory fixes and things that are practical or outdated, that needed to be updated and modernized. He also speaks at looking at the higher education funding formula, to see if there is a better and more equitable way of funding higher education across the entire system. This would be looking at the needs of each campus in a meaningful way that would allow flexibility as

they move forward.

Chancellor McNair also adds more detail on something that may have had media attention which is on the tuition and fee waivers. He mentions how the tuition and fee waivers cost NSHE about 8 million dollars a year. Chancellor McNair states that they will be telling the Legislature that they are in favor of these fee waivers; however, they would like them to be funded so that these costs aren't covered by the rest of the students.

President Chinnappan asks Chancellor McNair to expand on the discussions he had with Nevada's Federal Representatives regarding the prediction of federal graduate student funding. He asked a clarifying question if this was the same as the fee waiver discussion.

Chancellor McNair clarified that this is a separate issue, but it's also something they are always focused on. He mentions that for years it has been a constant issue that graduate students don't get paid a living wage, but it's a conversation they will continue having.

Chair Odunze asked Chancellor McNair what the delegation's thoughts were on his drone manufacturing comments. He's aware that Senator Rosen is on the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, so he's sure that either herself or her team were interested in hearing these comments.

Chancellor McNair points out that they are generally supportive, and no one has yet disagreed. What the delegation wants is to be served with ideas for research, workforce development, and other types of funding. He mentions they are also working closely with the Economic Development Organizations here in the State, because they need to reach a critical mass of manufacturing companies to recruit so they can see that this is worth investing federal dollars in building this infrastructure.

Chair Odunze expressed his excitement and asked the Chancellor to reach out to this board if they need help from the student perspective.

Chair Odunze closes Item 4 at 9:20 am.

Estimated Time: 15 minutes

5. DISCUSSION WITH DR. TYA MATHIS-COLEMAN FROM THE NEVADA STATE TREASURER'S OFFICE INFORMATION ONLY

NSA members will meet with Deputy Treasurer Dr. Tya Mathis-Colman from the Nevada State Treasurer's Office to discuss the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship and other financial aid opportunities administered through the Treasurer's Office. The discussion may include an overview of scholarship and financial aid programs, how these programs are administered, and opportunities for NSHE institutions and student governments to partner with the Treasurer's Office

to increase student awareness, outreach, and engagement regarding available financial aid resources. (*Ref. NSA-5*)

Chair Odunze opens Item 5 at 9:20 am.

**Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman shares presentation slides on “NVIGATE, powered by the Nevada Treasury Office”.
(*Ref. NSA-5*)**

Director Salisbury states that she enabled screen sharing. She also asked Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman to please share the presentation slides to include in the meeting minutes.

Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman states she is from the Nevada Treasurers Office. They oversee everything that has to do with college savings. She explains they have a platform called NVIGATE, which can be found on NVIGATE.gov. She emphasized that it's separate from the State Treasurer site, and they often send families, parents, students, and anyone who has questions on how to plan and save for post-secondary education to this website. She encouraged to share this with our institutions for students who have questions on the Millenium or any of the services and tools that the Treasurer's Office offers.

President Tavares thanks Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman for her time. He states he is the President for UNR Medicine and explains that something that's big in the world of graduate education across the board is the sustainability given the current state of Federal financial aid. He asked if her office had conversations around this.

Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman explains that her office has a lot of conversations with different stakeholders regarding financial aid, resources for both undergraduate and graduate, and individuals seeking higher education. She noted that one of the challenges her office faces are administering scholarships, financial aid, and other resources while not having the authority to create or change the policies that govern them. As a result, many questions regarding what the office can and cannot do involve legislative matters that would require changes at the legislative level.

President Tavares wanted clarification on if Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman has heard conversations on the legislative side or from people who are interested in addressing this issue.

Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman clarifies that she has not heard of any legislators who are going to move forward with this during the upcoming session. She thinks there have been questions, but oftentimes they don't hear about something until it's on the docket. She encouraged NSA to bring these concerns to legislators, especially since many are up for re-election and are currently deciding on their bill draft requests moving forward. She stated that knowing they have our support may help encourage more positive decisions.

President/Secretary Flores asks how the Treasurer's Office can ensure that all CCSD, private, and charter schools in Nevada are aware of all the resources they can provide to their students before starting college.

Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman explains that at the Treasurer's Office, they do their best to work in collaboration with all of the districts statewide. She mentioned that Lesly Milton is a part

of the outreach team, and they focus on a lot of outreach initiatives for the schools such as parent nights, financial aid nights, career days, college fairs, and all information given directly to the schools. Their office believes that this process starts early, so they spend a lot of time with K-5 partners, so they can become aware of these resources to have more time to save. She also mentioned that a lot of this information is spread through word of mouth, so if we had any schools we would like them to reach out to, she would be more than happy to be that resource.

Chair Odunze asked if there have been any conversations within her office to increase the Millennium Scholarship and how NSA Group can advocate for this.

Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman mentioned that fortunately the Treasurer's Office does have bill draft requests. She explained that they are currently working with the Treasurer to try and identify in what areas they want the bill draft requests to be. She mentioned college savings is one of the areas that the Treasury oversees, but getting a bill draft request is still a challenge they face even internally because there are so many other items and issues that are outside of the college savings scope. Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman mentioned there has been conversations on potentially have a Millenium Scholarship bill, though the challenge with that is there is no funding for the Millenium Scholarship. She explains that this scholarship takes from different pockets, but it's a legislative allocation that helps seal the deal every biennium. She mentioned they have had conversations about raising the amount awarded, but one of the ways this would happen is by raising the GPA requirement; the idea would be to give more money but to fewer students.

President Curtis-Brown states he believes scholarships should be accessible to as many students as possible. He mentioned he would love to see more undergraduate and graduate students go into college with more scholarship funding; but his concern is that less students would be attending our institutions because they would go to different states where they can receive more funding. He expresses that having the Millennium Scholarship helps keep some of our own students staying in the State.

Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman explains that when the Millennium Scholarship was first created in 1999, by Governor Guinn, the intention of creating this was to keep Nevada's "best and brightest" students. She explained that during that time the highest GPA students could get was a 4.0 GPA but now that has changed to where students can get a higher-grade point average. She states that what they are realizing is that this scholarship is not doing what it was intended to do, which was to keep the 'best and brightest' students in Nevada. The challenge she mentions is that they cannot compete with the amounts awarded in different states.

President Curtis-Brown understands the challenge, and he thinks it's great for those who find more aid elsewhere that will benefit them. He also emphasized that though most students who decide to stay may not be the 'best and brightest' at the beginning they have the potential to become better and brighter as they excel in their college programs.

Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman clarified that 'the best and brightest' was the language used in the original Millennium Scholarship.

President Boulter seconded what President Curtis-Brown mentioned. President Boulter shared that growing up as a Nevada local the Millennium Scholarship was always a staple throughout his middle and high school education that kept college an option for him. He expresses that if those requirements became a lot harder, it would deter people from staying in Nevada.

Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman stated that she was glad she brought this conversation to NSA, as she now understands that giving more money to fewer students should not be a recommendation. She then asked the group if there are any recommendations on how to make this scholarship last longer, thrive, and continue to grow since more money is not an option.

Chair Odunze recommended reaching out to student councils in high schools and having them do outreach on their behalf could be helpful. He also suggested reaching out to school leadership teams and counselors to share this information would be beneficial.

Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman explains they don't face a challenge getting students excited about the Millennium Scholarship. She states this is the program that continues to grow; the challenge is funding and how it's something they advocate for every biennium. Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman mentions that their goal is to have parents saving for college before their children enter high school.

President Boulter asked Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman if funding for the Millennium Scholarship could be obtained from fundraising, donations from outside entities, or individuals; or if this is something that funds could only be obtained by the State.

Leslie Milton explains that the Millennium Scholarship is currently being funded with forty percent of the Annual Master Settlement Agreement from the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) which is written in NRS (Nevada Revised Statutes). They also receive an annual 7.6 million transfer from the abandoned property trust fund, which is unclaimed property. She also added the carry-over balance, any money left over from other fiscal years, and legislative appropriations. Leslie Milton clarified on President Boulter's question stating, that if what he asked was the case it would have to go before the Legislature.

President/Secretary Flores echoed what her peers have mentioned on not supporting the increase of requirements for the Millennium Scholarship since this is something that helps many Nevadan families and students to consider going to college. President Flores mentioned she came from a high school that did not have a student council, so she suggested for the Treasurer's Office to also partner with the college recruiters to help share these resources.

President Salas also echoed what her peers have said. She is suggesting the Treasurer's Office strengthen high school outreach. She also mentioned maybe finding where funds are under-utilized and what qualifications can be changed.

President Tavares shares that the Millennium Scholarship has been instrumental to keeping his debt low, and it has enabled him to pursue a professional degree to hopefully stay in Nevada. He believes this scholarship enables students to be able to finish their degree, especially for underprivileged students.

Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman states the record that she is a huge advocate for the Millennium Scholarship, and she hears and understands everything everyone is saying. She mentions that she is also a product of this scholarship, and it wasn't for this scholarship she would've moved out of state. She states that at every table and every room she is advocating for this scholarship.

Chair Odunze thanks Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman for her time and giving us the opportunity to give our thoughts.

Dr. Tya Mathis-Coleman thanks NSA for inviting her, and she is always more than happy to have us express our thoughts and have conversations regarding the work the Treasurer's office is doing.

Chair Odunze closes Item 5 at 10:00 am.

Estimated Time: 15 minutes

6. DISCUSSION WITH NSHE ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT STAFF INFORMATION ONLY

NSA members will meet with staff from the Nevada System of Higher Education Academic and Student Affairs Department to learn about the programs, initiatives, and services supported by the department. The discussion may include an overview of student success initiatives, academic affairs, student support programs, policy development, and opportunities for collaboration between NSHE Academic and Student Affairs staff and student governments across the System.

Chair Odunze opens Item 6 at 10:00 am.

Chair Odunze welcomes our guests from the NSHE Academic and Student Affairs Department: Lindsay Couzens, Janet Stake, Laura Obrist, Terina Caserto, and Ashley Salisbury.

Lindsay Couzens states she is the Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs. She mentions what they do is provide system-wide leadership for all the efforts that support student success and academic excellence. They do a lot of work with academic and student policy. They also work with the institutions to get new programs approved by the Board of Regents. She adds that they work with student success and student affairs officers to coordinate different initiatives, like financial aid coordination and other student aid programs.

Janet Stake states she is the Director of Programming and Outreach for the NSHE Europe Subaward. She explains that Europe is a Federal Grant program out of the department of education and they provide college and career readiness services to high school students, starting in middle school, going into the first year of college. Their goal is to prepare high school students to go into college. She mentioned they work primarily with low-income first-generation students. She emphasizes that it is a seven-year program, and they are hoping to get an extension before they have the opportunity to apply for a new cycle. Janet Stake mentions they are only in five high schools currently, but they have staff at each NSHE institution to help first year college students. She also works for Apply Nevada, which is a

resource for college applications, as well as a State Representative for the American College Application Campaign which is a national entity promoting college application and FAFSA Completion.

Laura Obrist states she is the manager for the Fostering Success Initiative for NSHE, such as foster care. She mentions that her work focuses on the students in our institutions and community who have experienced foster care at some point in their life. She explains that her role was created after the Board of Regents passed the fee of labor policy, which applies to students who have been in foster care with a Nevada agency at age 13 or older. This would help pay their base course registration fees, so they focus on financial aid since this is an important component. Laura Obrist states she is a social worker by training, and the other forty percent is assisting her teams with other responsibilities.

Ashley Salisbury mentions that besides the NSA liaison she works very closely with Leslie and Tya from the State's Treasurer's Office. She works with them to help reconcile and request funding to reimburse the institutions for all the state programs and the Treasurer's Office, which are the Millennium and the Nevada Promise. She also works with the NSHE budget office to help fund the institutions for the Silver State Opportunity Grant. She adds that she works closely with financial aid directors from all institutions.

Terina Caserto wants to recognize more members of her team: Dave Singleton is the Academic and Transfer Policy Analyst, and Sarah Echo works in Institutional Research. Terina mentions they all work very closely but all in which have different specialties and states that she is the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs but for several years she was the director of policy. She explained that the Director of Policy does research and develops policy in the areas of academic affairs, student affairs, and research. She also coordinates with other departments within system administration; she also does research when it comes to academic guidelines. She also helps manage the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (SARA), which is a compliance for Nevada and all NSHE Institutions offering education across state lines.

Chair Odunze asked what are some projects that are new or existing that they are working on and would like student support for this academic year.

Terina Caserto mentioned a project they just finished, which was working with subject matter experts on educational resources. She mentioned that one-way students can help by bringing great ideas of campus initiatives that can bring visibility.

Chair Odunze followed by asking what some successful programs have been in the past academic years, and what they are looking forward to this year.

Laura Obrist stated that everyone is here to support students and wants to see them succeed. She expressed that she is especially excited to see students in more vulnerable situations to make it through and succeed, while also emphasizing the importance of providing resources that all students can utilize.

Ashley Salisbury shares that she recently gave her annual financial aid report to the ARSA Committee in June, and one of the things she highlighted was that the grants represented a larger share of financial aid resources than loans. She shared excitement because this has not happened in a very long time, and she shares that this goes to show how beneficial the Silver State Opportunity Grant and grants that come out of access funds. She believes that this emphasizes the importance of these grants and how impactful they can be.

Terina Caserto mentions that last year their office worked on bringing the Advanced Placement CLEP and International Baccalaureate (IB), the credits that they award for those tests that come into their system into alignment across all seven institutions. They have also been having conversations about reduced credit and why it can be appropriate. She says that student voices are important and welcomed at the table when these conversations are happening.

Janet Stake expresses her excitement on the growth and improvement of projects like the Nevada FAFSA Challenge and overall, the impact this has on students. She also shared that she was on a FAFSA national meeting, and Nevada was number six in the country on FAFSA completion.

Chair Odunze asked Ashley Salisbury what she thinks is changing that made grants and other financial aid larger than loans.

Ashely Salisbury explained that it could be various things. The grants category includes federal grants, state grants, and institutional grants; she explained it's hard to point out exactly why but students nationwide are taking less loans and finding additional resources which includes scholarship opportunities and third-party funding.

Chair Odunze thanks Terina for her work on the AP CLEP program as this is something very important to students when looking at which college/university to attend. Chair Odunze would also like to ask Laura how involved they are with each institution. He knows UNLV and CSUN works closely with the Fostering Scholars Program, so he would like to know about the involvement with other institutions.

Laura Obrist mentions she works closely with each institution, though they are all different and work in different places; she tailors how they work together based on needs.

Chair Odunze thanks the NSHE Academic and Student Affairs Department for their time and for sharing with NSA the work that they do.

Chair Odunze closes Item 6 at 10:30 am.

Estimated Time: 15 minutes

7. NSA PRIORITIES FOR THE 2026-27 YEAR**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

The NSA Chair will facilitate a discussion with NSA members regarding the Nevada Student Alliance's priorities for the 2026–27 academic year. Discussion may include consideration of legislative advocacy, cross-institution collaboration, and student affordability as the NSA's priorities for 2026-27. The discussion may also include the finalization of these priorities and any related goals or initiatives to guide the NSA's advocacy and work during the academic year.

Chair Odunze opens Item 7 at 10:42 am.

Chair Odunze shares that over these past few meetings the three priorities we all seem to settle on are: legislative advocacy, cross institution collaboration, and student affordability. He would like us to finalize these priorities, amend, or suggest different priorities.

Vice Chair, Moss believes that establishing three key priorities is a good step forward in ensuring we can communicate these well. He expresses full support for these priorities as it'll set this group up for success in this upcoming academic year.

Chair Odunze agrees, and he feels that we are already in the right direction and hitting all three priorities, especially with the resolution on access fees that passed.

Motion to approve priorities as listed: Curtis-Brown

2nd: Moss

All in favor; passes unanimously

Estimated Time: 15 minutes

8. DISCUSSION TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION****APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CURRENT
BOARD OF REGENTS POLICY ON STUDENT ACCESS FEES**

NSA members will review and discuss a draft resolution expressing the NSA's support for the current Board of Regents policy governing student access fees ([Title 4, Chapter 18, Section 8](#)). Discussion may include proposed revisions to the draft resolution, the purpose and impact of student access fees, and consideration of approval of the resolution. (*Ref. NSA-8*)

Chair Odunze opens Item 8 at 10:30 am.

President Chinnappan mentions there are two small typo corrections to make, stating the word 'funds' has two s' instead of just one. The other one is in the third paragraph, it's missing 'and clause'. He is also suggesting changing the wording to 'on behalf of more than' rather than saying 'on behalf of the over'.

Chair Odunze asks General Counsel, Carrie Parker, if we would have to amend these sections.

Carrie Parker states we can proceed by moving to approve the amendment by noting the revisions.

President Curtis-Brown states this is a very well-written document, and he thanks Chair Odunze for his work.

President Salas wants clarification on if this is approved today, if it'll be presented at the September Board of Regents meeting.

Chair Odunze clarifies that it will be presented if approved today.

Motion to approve as amended: Moss

2nd: Dev Chinnappan

Aye Kelechi Odunze, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN (Chair)

Aye Dillon Moss, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN (Vice Chair)

Aye Stephanie Flores, Nevada State University, NSSA (Secretary)

Aye Trey Curtis-Brown, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA

Aye Ratchanya Dev Chinnappan, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA

Aye Ozzie Tavares, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUNSOM

Aye Pulin Muangsiri, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA

Aye Karla Salas, Western Nevada College, ASWN

8-0-0 motion passes

Chair Odunze closes Item 8 at 10:42 am.

Estimated Time: 15 minutes

9. DISCUSSION ON EMERGENCY MEDICINE

INFORMATION ONLY

NSA members will discuss emergency medicine availability across NSHE institutions. Discussion may include medical kiosks similar to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas' Medi Cube to support student access to common necessities found at pharmacies. Members may also share information on existing or similar resources provided at their respective campuses.

Estimated Time: 10 minutes

Item not open due to time constraints

10. NSA CHAIR UPDATE

INFORMATION ONLY

NSA Chair or his designee may provide an update on any projects or tasks he is currently working on that pertain to NSA business.

Chair Odunze shares that UNLV has finished painting bike and scooter lanes after a resolution that was passed by CSUN last year. They are also working on getting a water station/water fountain outside near one of their parking garages. He shares these are projects they have been working on for quite some time, so he's excited to see the outcomes. He also shares that Chair Goodman sent a letter to all Presidents suggesting seeing less reports on what we have done in our SGA and more discussion based instead. Chair Odunze would like to give us to give him suggestions on topics to discuss with BOR Chair focusing on our priorities. He likes this approach and feels that it's great that Chair Goodman wants this to be more discussion-based.

Estimated Time: 5 minutes

11. MEMBER UPDATES

INFORMATION ONLY

Members may provide an update regarding their respective campuses' planned activities and events.

Vice Chair Moss shared that ASUN has been holding work sessions to prepare for the year ahead and has made significant progress on several programs they hope to implement. He mentioned that their scholarship program will be presented on the Senate floor at the start of the term. ASUN is also working on developing a new strategic plan, as their most recent plan has expired. Additionally, they have made progress in expanding their Pack Provisions Program and recently passed a bill to fund a feasibility assessment for relocating the service to a more central location, particularly to better serve students living in the dorms. They will also be hosting Nevada FIT to welcome the Class of 2030.

President/Secretary Flores shared that Nevada State University officially welcomed its new University President, who held her first meeting with NSSA to meet all its officers. NSSA also reestablished the Constitution and By-Laws Task Force. As mentioned in previous meetings, NSSA's Constitution was approved by the Chancellor in July, and the task force was reestablished to review and approve minor edits removed during the review process. President Flores also shared that NSSA hosted a Networking Social for club and organization leaders to network with their peers. Additionally, NSSA hosted workshops to inform leaders of new policy changes and the new involvement platform, Campus Groups. NSSA is now preparing for the start of the semester, including hosting the Scorpion Court and welcoming new Scorpions to campus.

Boulter exited 10:30am

President Curtis-Brown shared that GPSA's Constitution is currently under review and will be voted on before being sent to the Chancellor's Office for approval. Their General Counsel has provided revisions, and the Constitution will also be reviewed by their Dean and President Heavy. He also shared that GPSA has established its goals for the upcoming year, which will be presented for approval at their September meeting, along with their fiscal budget. He shared that GPSA is increasing its research funding, with \$210,000 as its largest allocation, supplemented by an additional \$35,000 from the Graduate College and approximately \$10,000 from various schools and colleges. They are on track to reach \$350,000 in research funding this year. GPSA has also partnered with University Libraries and several colleges to increase the open-access journal fund, helping graduating students with publication fees and identifying non-predatory publishing opportunities. They are also discussing the creation of a UNLV graduate journal where students can publish their work, which will be especially helpful for medical students who are trying to get into their residency programs and trying to get published.

Curtis-Brown exited 10:52am

President Chinnappan shared that GSA summer task force met last Tuesday, in which they are also attending new graduate student orientation alongside executive council to share with

new graduate students' information about GSA and the resources they provide. They have officially transitioned its student organization platform from Pack Life to Lounge. They will also open graduate student club registration beginning Monday, allowing clubs to register for the new academic year. GSA is nearly finished preparing the fiscal year 26-27 budget which will be presented to the GSA council for approval on August 25th. The GSA Executive Team is preparing for their retreat on August 22nd where they will discuss the priorities and plans for the upcoming academic year. Lastly, GSA is partnering and co-hosting a NASA internship workshop today at 12pm via Zoom.

President Muangsiri shared that TMCC SGA has mainly been preparing for the start of the semester. They recently swore in a new member to fill a Senate vacancy, making their SGA officially complete. They also met with the deans of each academic division to learn about their goals, student needs, and potential areas for collaboration. SGA also introduced themselves to incoming TRIO students, and their Welcome Back Week events have been finalized. Additionally, the SGA completed a three-week training course focused on goal setting and leadership. President Muangsiri expressed excitement about seeing everyone at the Quarterly Board of Regents meeting at TMCC.

President Salas shares that ASWN has been very productive during the summer, with finalizing planning for their Welcome Back events. Though, the Welcome Back events will be in the third week of the semester, ASWN is hoping to have tabling sessions in the meanwhile to get input from students. She mentioned they have also completed their 2-week training and she believes it went well. ASWN also attended an event called “Reach for the Stars”, which is a fundraising gala for WNC.

President Salas shared that ASWN has been very productive over the summer, including finalizing plans for their Welcome Back events. Although the events will take place during the third week of the semester, ASWN hopes to hold tabling sessions beforehand to gather input from students. She also mentioned that they completed their two-week training, which she believes went well. Additionally, ASWN attended “Reach for the Stars,” a fundraising gala for WNC.

President Tavares shared that the Class of 2030 began that week and that they successfully held their MedFit and White Coat Ceremony last week. He mentioned that they would be tabling that day, which has involved significant planning, and that he will be using the opportunity to recruit students to join their student government. Elections will also be held soon to select his replacement for next year. President Tavares also shared that their Constitution was sent back by NSHE, so they will need to revisit and revise it.

Estimated Time: 10 minutes

12. 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.*).

President/Secretary Flores would like to see Item 9 on our next agenda- Discussion on Emergency Medicine

Estimated Time: 5 minutes

13. 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.

Pursuant to NRS 241.023, members of the public may also participate in the meeting by submitting written public comment messages via email to asalisbury@nshe.nevada.edu. Written statements received by 4:30 p.m. on THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2026, will be distributed to NSA members and included in the permanent meeting record and names of those who provide public comment via email will be announced at the meeting, however messages will not be read into the record. 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

No Public Comment

Adjourned 11:03am

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/>



Helping Nevadans **Plan, Save,**
and Pay for Higher Education.



The Nevada Treasury



ZACH CONINE
Treasurer
Nevada's 23rd State



DR. TYA MATHIS-COLEMAN
Deputy Treasurer
College Savings Division

College Savings Programs & Initiatives

- Nevada Prepaid Tuition
- College Kick Start
- Nevada 529 Plans
- Governor Guinn Millenium Scholarship
- Kenny C. Guinn Memorial Scholarship
- Scholarship database
- Middle school essay contests (4)
- Art Contest
- Back to School Fair



Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship



- \$10,000 merit-based scholarship for eligible Nevada high school graduates attending an in-state college.
- Requirements: 3.25 GPA, 1070 SAT or 21 ACT; Nevada residency; and core curriculum completion.
- Students must meet continuing eligibility requirements to maintain scholarship Since program was implemented, **187,676** students have utilized the scholarship
- Amount distributed to date: **\$755,514,077**

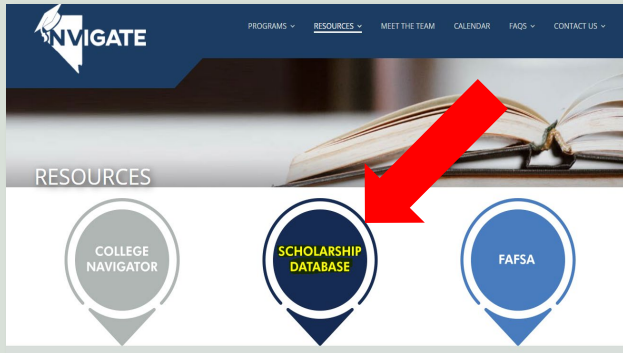
Type of Institution	GGMS Pays
Community College (CSN, GBC, WNC, TMCC)	\$40
Nevada State University	\$60
University (UNLV, UNR, Roseman)	\$80

GGMS Enrollment and Disbursement Summary – Past Four Semesters

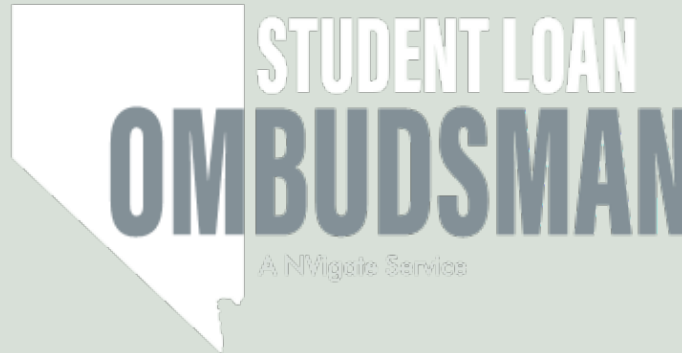


Institution	Fall 2024	Spring 2025	Fall 2025	Spring 2026
WNC	177 / \$85,560	136 / \$66,680	172 / \$81,100	156 / \$73,320
GBC	250 / \$133,640	223 / \$126,940	267 / \$147,100	243 / \$136,340
TMCC	840 / \$409,600	350 / \$316,120	829 / \$401,360	670 / \$314,740
CSN	3,166 / \$1,512,212	2,369 / \$1,135,134	3,347 / \$1,164,403	2,459 / \$1,179,345
NSU	984 / \$790,404	843 / \$684,900	1,072 / \$864,440	939 / \$760,900
UNLV	9,138 / \$9,921,337	7,750 / \$8,200,856	9,615 / \$10,426,566	7,954 / \$8,659,669
UNR	6,084 / \$6,921,168	4,951 / \$5,624,252	6,311 / \$7,195,868	5,085 / \$5,770,742
Total	20,639 / \$19,773M	16,722 / \$16,154M	21,613 / \$20,730M	17,506 / 16,905M

Financial Aid Opportunities



- 300+ scholarships
- Access it any time to get additional funding for post-secondary education.



- Answers loan questions and investigates concerns
- Helps find solutions and resources



- Grants & scholarships: Free money for school
- Work-study & loans: Work-study lets you earn money; loans must be repaid with interest.

How Can We Assist You?



Thank you!

Questions?

Contact us TODAY!

collegesavings@nevadatreasurer.gov

702-486-6980

NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE
NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION
A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE CURRENT BOARD OF REGENTS POLICY ON
STUDENT ACCESS FUNDSS

WHEREAS, the Nevada Student Alliance (NSA) represents over 110,000 students attending colleges and universities within the Nevada System of Higher Education; **AND**

WHEREAS, the NSA is comprised of elected representatives from all NSHE institutions, who under the authority of NSA Constitution section 110.1 and section 110.2, are empowered to “promote, foster, advance, represent, and protect the interests and welfare of the students of the Nevada System of Higher Education” and “give the students of the Nevada System of Higher Education a unified voice before all systems and legislative bodies”; **AND**

WHEREAS, NSHE Institutions are committed to creating community for all students and ensuring that each student has access to higher education; **AND**

WHEREAS, The Regents’ Higher Education Opportunity Award (RHEOA), partially funded through Student Access Funds, is granted to students through financial aid; **AND**

WHEREAS, NSHE Institutions use Student Access Funds to recruit, retain, and graduate students across the system, disbursing \$74.9 million in RHEOA to 35,507 students systemwide in 2024-2025 alone; **AND**

WHEREAS, 86% of Student Access Funds continue to come directly from student registration fees, demonstrating that students themselves are among the primary funders of this aid, and that this shared-investment model directly benefits the student body that contributes to it; **AND**

WHEREAS, Board of Regents policy requires that at least 80 percent of undergraduate and 50 percent of graduate Student Access Funds go to need-based programs, and NSHE publicly reports these disbursements annually by institution, making RHEOA a transparent and accountable fee-funded expenditure in the entire system; **AND**

WHEREAS, many of NSHE’s student population has federally determined need, with 36,733 NSHE students receiving a federal Pell Grant in 2024-25, showing the need for the continuation of the RHEOA; **AND**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE ON BEHALF OF THE over 110,000 STUDENTS OF NSHE, that the NSA affirms its strong support for the continuation of Student Access Funds at their current levels, recognizing them as a vital, transparent, and accountable student-funded investment in access, retention, and graduation across the NSHE system; **AND**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NSA calls upon the NSHE Board of Regents and institutional administrations to preserve Student Access Fund revenue for its intended purpose of direct, need-based student financial aid, and to oppose any effort to remove, reduce, redirect, or diminish this funding stream; **AND**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, any equitable review of NSHE fee-funded expenditures should apply consistent standards of scrutiny, transparency, and accountability across all categories of institutional spending, rather than disproportionately targeting the funding stream that most directly and transparently benefits students with demonstrated financial need;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NSA urges NSHE to continue its annual public reporting of RHEOA allocations and disbursements at each institution, consistent with existing NSHE Financial Aid Report methodology; **AND**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the NSHE Board of Regents, the Chancellor of NSHE, and the presidents of each NSHE institution for their consideration and commitment to retaining the current Board mandated Student Access Funds.

ATTEST:

Kelechi Odunze, NSA Chair & Consolidated Students of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (CSUN) President

Dillon Moss, NSA Vice Chair & Associated Students of the University of Nevada, Reno (ASUN) President

Stephanie Flores, NSA Secretary & Nevada State Student Alliance (NSSA) President

Brayden Boulter, NSA Member & Associated Students of the College of Southern Nevada (ASCSN) President

Trey Curtis-Brown, NSA Member & The University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Graduate & Professional Student Association (GPSA) President

Ratchanya Dev Chinnappan, NSA Member & The University of Nevada, Reno, Graduate Student Association (GSA) President

Ozzie Tavares, NSA Member & Associated Students of the University of Nevada, Reno (ASUNSOM) President

Pulin Muangsiri, NSA Member & Truckee Meadows Community College Student Government Association (SGA) President

Storm Raine, NSA Member & Great Basin College Student Government Association (SGA) President

Karla Salas, NSA Member & Associated Students of Western Nevada College (ASWN) President