Meeting Minutes – Approved

NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)

AGENDA
September 4, 2026
8:00 a.m.

Truckee Meadows Community College
Red Mountain Building
Room 256
7000 Dandini Blvd. Reno, NV 89512

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 Trey Curtis-Brown, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA
P Ratchanya Dev Chinnappan, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA
P Pulin Muangsiri, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA
P Storm Raine, Great Basin College, SGA
P Karla Salas, Western Nevada College, ASWN
P AT 8:04 AM Ozzie Tavares, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUNSOM
Office Vacant, Desert Research Institute, GRAD

Guests:
Alejandro Rodriguez, NSHE
Luisa Bautista, NSSA
Terina Caserto, NSHE
Jason Frierson, NSHE
Brody Leiser, NSHE
Stephanie Goodman, NSHE
Carol Del Carlo, NSHE
Matt McNair, NSHE
Chris Nielsen, NSHE
Carrie Parker, NSHE
Ashley Salisbury, NSHE

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.

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.

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, SEPTEMBER 3, 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.

No Public Comment.

3. DISCUSSION WITH BOARD OFFICERS AND CHANCELLOR — INFORMATION ONLY

NSA members will have the opportunity to have an open dialogue with the officers of the Board of Regents or their designees and the Chancellor or designee. The topics of discussion may include legislative priorities, Regents' priorities, potential collaborative initiatives between the Board of Regents and each campuses' student government and the Board of Regents' role in advocating for the establishment of a student regent position through the Nevada Legislature, including potential legislative action, the benefits of student representation on the Board, and opportunities for NSA to support or participate in this effort.

Item 3 opened at 8:01 a.m.

Chair Odunze thanks to the Chair, Vice Chair, Chancellor, and Vice Chancellor for joining us at our NSA meeting.

President Chinnappan discusses being interrupted during his public comment at the August Special Board of Regents meeting and asked if that is the kind of message the Regents are trying to send to students.

Chair Goodman apologizes responds by saying she did not know it was President Chinnappan on the call at the meeting. She further clarified that the Board of Regents had a 60-minute limit on public comment, and that comments needed to be limited. She apologizes again and said she wanted all waiting to call in had a chance to speak

Vice Chair Del Carlo asks if President Chinnappan also submitted a written public comment

President Chinnappan clarifies that he did not know if he had the time to give public comment over the phone but was able to do so as he was able to step away from his Grad Assistant duties.

President Flores brought up concerns of decorum during the August Special Board Meeting and urges for improved professionalism during disagreements at Board Meetings.

Chair Goodman responds that she wishes the August Meeting went differently as well and stated she has been better prepared and will conduct the meetings better moving forward. She highlights that she is excited to be working in her role with Vice Chair Del Carlo. She also highlights that she will be utilizing General Counsel more during meetings when needed. She thanks the NSA for the conversation.

Vice Chair Del Carlo highlights her retreat for the Association of Community College Trustees. Del Carlo emphasized the importance of looking at how individuals talk to each other and training people on how to interact with each other.
President Boulter asks about the Legislative Session and equitable treatment of each NSHE Institution during the Session.

Chancellor McNair emphasizes speaking with one voice to ensure that each institution is represented and that each institution is coordinating, including students.

Chair Goodman adds that everyone needs to go through Vice Chancellor Frierson to coordinate. She emphasizes the vote on NSHE's priorities for the Legislative Session and the importance of working as a System during the Session.

Vice Chancellor Frierson discusses how important it is to have Government Affairs as a hub to make sure each Institution has wins during the Session.

Chancellor McNair adds that a main priority is creating a new funding formula that each Institution President can agree on.

CFO Leiser talks about the Board priorities for Institution enhancements that benefit each campus. CFO Leiser also talks about the amendment to the funding formula and that NSHE will continue to engage with NSA on future changes.

President Curtis-Brown brings up concerns on the amount of coverage as Graduate Assistant (GA) lines being reduced because tuition has gone up. Because of this, the amount of GAs will not increase even though there is increased enrollment. Curtis-Brown also brought up GA efforts to unionize.

Chancellor McNair says a lot of the funding for GAs comes from the Federal government, and that many of those funds are reliant on grants that NSHE cannot dictate.

Chair Goodman adds that they will follow-up with the Institution Presidents on any updates.

President Curtis-Brown informs the Chancellor that GAs have emailed the Chancellor about efforts to unionize and asked if there is any statement from NSHE to bring back to students.

Chancellor McNair said he sent an email that NSHE was gathering information from each campus before going further. The Chancellor wants to know what problem is attempting to be addressed whether there is unionization or not so NSHE can assist.

President Curtis-Brown invites NSHE leadership to a townhall on GA concerns on September 16th.

Vice Chair Del Carlo lets President Curtis-Brown know NSHE leadership will be in Washington D.C. but are willing join via zoom.

CFO Leiser says he can attend via zoom.

Vice Chair Moss asks for clarification on where student government fits into the one NSHE outlook.

Vice Chancellor Frierson responds that NSHE is helping to coordinate with each Government & Community Engagement team at their institutions but is open to collaborating with each student government on how they can get involved. The Vice Chancellor states he will forward a memo for how the System will coordinate during the Legislative Session to the NSA.

Vice Chair Moss starts the discussion on a potential student regent to the Board of Regents and wants to hear from NSHE Leadership. Vice Chair Moss brings back his background in the Youth Legislature and the importance of highlighting the student perspective.

Vice Chancellor Frierson talks about a previous resolution brought by the NSA on a student regent, and that there was a recommendation that it needed to be a Constitutional amendment. The Vice Chancellor says he would like to know who recommended that change.

Chair Odunze recognizes Terina Caserto and asks for any background

Terina Caserto informs the body she was the NSA liaison at the time, but where they received that information, she is unsure, but she will research the background on what happened.

Chair Goodman states that the NSA Chair can already participate and that the purpose of the students at the meetings is to learn and gain experience. Chair Goodman states that being on the Board takes experience to understand the nuances of the discussions. She brings up; she will always call on the NSA Chair. She states she will not support a student regent but will support allowing NSA to give input during the meetings.

Chair Odunze responds by saying there are members of student government who are non-traditional and may even have more experience than a Regent.

Chair Goodman states that there is not always consistency with the age of who represents the student body. She further states that nothing can happen.

President Curtis-Brown states that a student vote might bring up issues with turnover, but that NSA should be able to put items on the agenda without going through the Institution Presidents.

Chair Goodman states that she has the power to put what she wants on the agenda and so that option is available for NSA now.

President Curtis-Brown asks about Graduate international students and how the Big Beautiful Bill is making it harder for international students to enroll or come back to UNLV after going back to their countries of origin

Chair Goodman says it is a federal issue, but she empathizes.

Vice Chancellor Frierson states there is a lobby team in Washington, D.C. to keep up to date on new information, but that NSHE is being supportive of existing students. He states that NSHE is proud of their international student body.

President Curtis-Brown says there is not funding for students over the summer because they are worried about going home and that GPSA and the UNLV Graduate College are attempting to be as supportive as possible. He asks if there is any funding at the NSHE level,

Vice Chancellor Frierson says he is happy to be put in contact with any institutional organization and serve as a resource.

President Tavares asks about how the Big Beautiful Bill is affecting medical education and that the loan cap is affecting student's ability to go to medical school within the state. He asks how it is being addressed

Chancellor McNair says NSHE is looking at the issue and brings up the difficulty of finding doctors to practice in Nevada. Chancellor McNair states the market may be correct nationally as it is a country-wide issue, and that the loan cap may be adjusted because of that.

President Tavares is concerned about physicians who go to NSHE medical school staying and practicing in Nevada after the fact because of the cost.

Chair Goodman states she will investigate the issue.

President Boulter asks about the NSHE Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) committee and if it will be brought back up for future consideration.

Chair Goodman says she is bringing forward an agenda item to review all Board committees during the October meeting, and that there is a possibility the IDEA committee will be combined with Title IX and renamed to the Inclusivity and Culture Committee. President Flores asks if there are any specific issues where having a student advocate is helpful.

Chair Goodman brings up the funding formula and how the current system makes the Institutions compete. The funding for NSHE has gone from 19% to 12% and all Institutions in NSHE are important.

Vice Chancellor Frierson says there is a need to change policy makers' perceptions on higher education. The Vice Chancellor highlights how important it is to have a higher education in Nevada as the economy changes. He states there is an importance in balancing both K-12 and higher education to prepare young Nevadans for what comes next.

CFO Leiser states NSHE is bottom of the list for FTE funding in the U.S., but that it reflects Nevada Institutions are more affordable comparatively.

Vice Chair Del Carlo highlights the importance of working with students during the Legislative Session. Del Carlo brings up the Association of Community College Summit in Washington D.C. and informs the NSA they should request to go with their Institution Presidents.

Chancellor McNair brings up advocating for the Nevada Legislature to fund Native American and National Guard Fee waivers to alleviate costs from students and the System.

Chair Odunze thanks NSHE leadership for their time.

Item 3 closed at 8:50 a.m.

4. 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.*).

Item 4 opened at 8:50 a.m.
Item 4 closed at 8:50 a.m.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT — INFORMATION ONLY

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Item 5 opened at 8:50 a.m.
Item 5 closed at 8:51 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
NSU, 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/