



NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE

NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING
ACCESSIBILITY ON CAMPUS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

WHEREAS, the Nevada Student Alliance is composed of the higher education institutions within the Nevada System of Higher Education, which are: University of Nevada, Reno; University of Nevada, Las Vegas; Nevada State College; College of Southern Nevada, Great Basin College; Truckee Meadows Community College; Western Nevada College; and the Desert Research Institute; AND

WHEREAS, students with cognitive, developmental, intellectual, learning, visual/hearing, physical and/or mobility disabilities engage with campus life in different ways than their peers; AND

WHEREAS, the Employment and Disability Institute at Cornell University reported in 2012 that 10.6% of working aged Nevadans (ages 21-64) have a disability; AND

WHEREAS, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 provided for the original definition of disability used in the original Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990; AND

WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008 clarified the definition of a disability by legislating examples of major life activities and acknowledging temporary cognitive, developmental, intellectual, learning, visual/hearing, physical and/or mobility disabilities as such; AND

WHEREAS, the ADAAA of 2008 further provided that employment candidates with disabilities shall not be discriminated against on the basis of cognitive, developmental, intellectual, learning, visual/hearing, physical and/or mobility disabilities; AND

WHEREAS, these students, staff, faculty and guests would benefit from specific advocacies that embrace their participation in all aspects of campus life, and which create campus life environments which equal to those experienced by their fellow peers without cognitive, developmental, intellectual, learning, visual/hearing, physical and/or mobility disabilities; AND THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Nevada Student Alliance, on behalf of the students enrolled in the Nevada System of Higher education:

- Urges NSHE Administration to create investment partnerships with relevant campus entities in making the campus as fully accessible to students, staff, faculty and guests with cognitive, developmental, intellectual, learning, visual/hearing, physical and/or mobility disabilities as possible.
- Urges the NSHE Administration to review the effectiveness and accessibility of any counseling and psychological services provided, including, but not limited to, waiting time, session limits and adequate staffing; AND
- Urges the NSHE Administration to review the Disability Resource Center (DRC, or its equivalent) at each institution in regards to staffing and accessibility to students, and to provide the DRC with resources appropriate to current and expected future service demands, including, but not limited to, documentation, intake, note taking, and testing;
- Urges the Presidents of all NSHE institutions, the Chancellor, and the members of the Board of Regents to write letters in support of H.R. 6122: the Accessible Instructional Materials in Higher Education Act; AND
- Will, upon passage, forward this resolution to the NSHE Board of Regents.

ADOPTED by the Nevada Student Alliance on this 10th Day of November 2016.

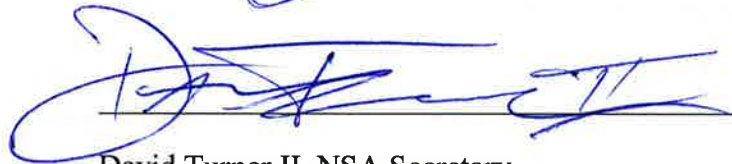
Attest:



Desiree DeCosta, NSA Chair



Carlos Fernandez, NSA Vice-Chair



David Turner II, NSA Secretary

Supplemental Attachment to NSA Resolution Supporting Accessibility on Campus for People with Disabilities

Furthermore, it is important to recognize the supplemental information needed to address disabilities on college campuses. It is imperative for the following actions to also be taken into consideration when examining the effectiveness of the services provided.

- The NSHE Administration should review the physical accessibility of buildings most accessed by students; AND
- The NSHE Administration should try assist in providing students, staff, faculty, guests, and employment candidates with effective communication (e.g., audio/visual) accommodations for university meetings, including, but not limited to, those hosted by the Nevada Student Alliance; AND
- The NSHE Board of Regents and the Nevada Student Alliance should consider issues of equal access when setting student ticket policies for athletic events; AND
- The NSHE Board of Regents will need to amend its Handbook, and all student governments under the Nevada Student Alliance to amend their own Constitution, to reflect the inclusion of students with cognitive, developmental, intellectual, learning, visual/hearing, physical and/or mobility disabilities in all aspects of campus life, including the ability to participate fully in NSHE AND
- The Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents and the Nevada Student Alliance should consider issues of equal access as part of the strategic planning process of building/room/office/stadium design, campus programming, new dining initiatives, etc.; AND
- The NSHE Board of Regents and the all higher education administrators should increase degree and course offerings which specialize in the area of cognitive, developmental, intellectual, learning, visual/hearing, physical and/or mobility disabilities; AND
- The NSHE Board of Regents and higher education administrators will need to design, recruit, train, and develop positions which can be performed by employment candidates with cognitive, developmental, intellectual, learning, visual/hearing, physical and/or mobility disabilities with reasonable accommodations, including all student governments associated with the Nevada Student Alliance and the student candidates for elected and/or appointed positions it seeks annually; AND
- The Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents and higher education administrators should conduct an ongoing review of its policies, procedures, and service offerings to ensure compliance with ADAAA and other relevant federal laws, as well as embracing all students' participation in campus life; AND

- The Nevada System of Higher Education and higher education administrators will need to make equal access a core competency of the NSHE mission and vision statements from the date of this resolution forward; AND
- All NSHE institutions will need to maintain ongoing relationships with Disability Resource Centers (DRC), any particular counseling and psychological services on campus, community non-profit organizations that specialize in the area of cognitive, developmental, intellectual, learning, and/or mobility disabilities, and other Nevada System of Higher Education institutions and the Board of Regents concerning the issue of equal access for students, staff, faculty, guests, and employment candidates with cognitive, developmental, intellectual, learning, and/or mobility disabilities.