

NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)

Minutes August 11, 2016

4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE)
Reno System Administration Building, Room 134
2601 Enterprise Road Reno, NV 89512**

Video Conference Connection from the Meeting Site to:

Carson City-WNC Dini 105

Elko-GBC LCSL 122

Henderson- NSC RSC 370

Las Vegas–CSN CHEY 2638 and NSHE System Admin 101

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta at 4:02 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

Ms. Desiree DeCosta, Nevada State College, NSSA (NSA Chair) - Present

Mr. Carlos Fernandez, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN (NSA Vice Chair) - Present

Mr. David Turner II, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA (NSA Secretary) - Present

Mr. Brandon Boone, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN - Represented by proxy: Hannah Jackson

Ms. Chelsey Fox, Great Basin College, SGA - Absent

Ms. Meghan Pierce, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPSA - Present

Ms. Jill Robinson, College of Southern Nevada, ASCSN - Present

Mr. Tyler Ross, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA – Represented by new acting President: Mr. David Clark

Mr. Deep Sengupta, Desert Research Institute, GRAD - Absent

Mr. Cody Shepard, Western Nevada College, ASWN – Represented by proxy: Jessica Hoyos

3. GUEST RECOGNITION

Mr. John V. White, Chancellor

Ms. Renée Davis, Director of Student Affairs with the Nevada System of Higher Education

Ms. Lilly Leon-Vicks, Western Nevada College Coordinator for Student Life

Mr. Umram Osambela, Previous Nevada Student Alliance, Lobbyist

Mr. Stephen Cohen, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Student

Ms. Caitlyn Caruso, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Student, CSUN

Ms. Mariana Sarmiento, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, UndocuNetwork

Ms. Hafid Acosta, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, UndocuNetwork

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

(INFORMATION)

Mr. Umram Osambela, Previous Nevada Student Alliance Lobbyist presents to the NSA some Bill Draft Requests (BDR) that the NSA should be aware of, with a total of 14 BDRs. Three of the BDRs pertain to Higher Education, where the other 11 may or may not.

NSA Member Jill Robinson asks if the BDRs can be sent out to the NSA.

Mr. Umram Osambela says they can be and will send out the three that do pertain to Higher Education. Once the other BDRs have been reviewed the ones for K-12 will be dropped and the remainder will be sent out to the NSA members.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
(FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

*NSA Secretary David Turner moves to approve the minutes from July 14, 2016.
NSA Member Jill Robinson seconds
Minutes approved by majority vote.*

**6. DISCUSSION WITH CHANCELLOR
(INFORMATION)**

Mr. John V. White, Chancellor introduces himself to the NSA. Provost at UNLV until 2015. Previous to that Mr. John V. White was the Dean of Law School for five years. Previous to that Mr. John V. White taught at LSU for 15 years. From Louisiana where he went to Community College while dual enrolled at LSU in Eunice before transferring to Baton Rouge where he went to Law School.

Due to governing documents the Board of Regents must have a Chancellor. After the previous Chancellor, Dan Klaich retired, Mr. John V. White was elected until a search process has been completed to find the next Chancellor, for which Mr. John V. White is not a candidate. Mr. John V. Whitecgvtto fforerniylance -3(hancc)-2(ana wana wy-8(e)4(nth -0.004(al)-2(or)-1(,)JTJ [c)4(h ps)-[(co)-

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Another issue we are facing is one that is being said the country is going to be facing by 2030, where we have a more diverse, lower income, first generation students going back into higher education. Showing we are on the leading edge of these challenges and need to be leading the way for solutions to these challenges.

These will be addressed through a series of speeches in the fall. That will cover how we will deal and solve these issues in the first half of the 21st century. The last time a study was done dealing with these problems was back in 2004, 12 years ago, showing that is time for another one of these studies to be done. These are ultimately the goals that Mr. John V. White would like to achieve within the 12 months, with the last half all being legislative in nature. This will be mending the credibility gap with the legislators. This being done on an interpersonal level. This also shows the amount of transparency that needs to happen, even with the issues that the individual schools are facing.

NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta thanks Chancellor John V. White for the introduction, and reinforces the NSA's efforts with the legislative process in the past and is something we can consider for this upcoming session. To help in this effort, Desiree DeCosta suggests a round of introductions from the members and thei

NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez introduces himself, pointing out that the main focus for UNLV is the alignment of the Top Tier Status. To move forward and progress as a campus as a whole. That bringing together the diversity on campus is a positive thing. Another thing within that is to improve the telephone system so that they are more accessible to students. That students may feel safer on campus, which would attract more people to the university. Helping the focus of the NSA with the "It's on Us" campaign. To show any student that may go through any traumatic event that we are here for them. At UNLV within CSUN they are looking into the Green Dot training program. To train their own members within CSUN about how to deal with these things. They are also looking to help their Undocumented/DACA students. By one creating a scholarship and insuring that they have the resources to be successful at UNLV. There is a big amount of DACA students at UNLV, but there hasn't been enough focus on it as a university to provide what they need to succeed. Most of these are first generation students or along these lines, that we need to be welcoming to these students and look into, as the NSA, make sure these students are being catered to. That this is what UNLV has going on and they are really looking for the support.

With all this, to also make sure we are not forgetting another underserves student population, being students with disabilities. Being something that was presented at the last Board of Regents meeting and taking this back to UNLV to make sure we are representing these students.

Mr. John V. White explains that these are things that the Board supports across the board. Most of them not being legislative items. Though he is confident that the dialog is there for the legislative items. Pointing out that there is no single request for a Top Tier Status. Though that was something that was envisioned when the subject comes up. Though the biggest issue with that is that there isn't a lot of revenue from the state right now. So the Board has preference a request around the formula. With the biggest challenges with the Top Tier effort being the student to faculty ratios. So that instruction and research can happen with the same faculty. However, having already developed a close relationship with the president, there is confidence that the issue is already trying to be tackled.

Another topic that deserves a little comment being the DACA and undocumented student efforts. With this being a challenge at both UNLV and the system as a whole. To balance both wanting to help these students with the true political peril of doing so. To help this, one of the things the universities have done intentionally is not collect any information (i)-1(antat)-2(i)-2(.nnal)-2.nnal witicl

Mr. John V. White explains that's been number one on the list as the Board understands that we are in a crisis with faculty pay for the last eight years. Explaining that there have only been a few small increases. At the same time the Governor's Office has requested a flat budget and a 5% cut budget. Based on their concern that they may have to make cuts. The issue on professional merit is that as a system our request number is big enough, but not huge. At \$10

we are not looking at a decrease in state revenue, the problem is that we are not seeing the level increase the budget projections have assume. This will be a tight budgeting session, but hopefully there is a way to avoid a catastrophic effects of cuts.

NSA Member Jill Robinson states that there is a lot going on at CSN as well. However, the first meeting with the President is not until the following week, so there is no news on the major things happening on campus. Other than a merge with another president and a few deans. This is to help out with the many locations down in Southern Nevada. To also piggyback off of the other institutions regarding DA t 0. 6.663(b)2(in)2(s)-1(a)-saT, there is a if ofdior muti2(an pr)-1(e)4()-9u prees bedi

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destabilizing. Though in the near future, if there is a way to get both universities to the very top level in Carnegie is going to require more investment in graduate students. TA levels and funding is very low, which it needs to be looked at how that's effecting productivity. Which, looking at states in similar size and even poorer than Nevada, like Mississippi, have twice as much in research expenditures. This isn't solely an institution specific issue, this is a university wide one. Through faculty and students, with grant writing at all levels. A big part of the increase is going to have to happen outside of the science areas, as they have gone flat. As other institutions such as in Oregon give a fifth of the expenditures into Liberal Arts, which may seem weird until you realize they have a Language Center. Unfortunately this isn't something on the radar for this session, but it is one coming up soon.

NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta asks what the big goal for this legislative session.

Mr. John V. White explains there are two requests, a funding and capital requests. With the capital requests going for UNR's engineering building being one, the NSC building being two, and a couple of others. On the funding side, salary for professional staff being one, the regular increase with the funding formula being two, the build out for the two medical schools being three, a change in the formula to increase career and technical numeration being four. This would impact the community colleges so they can focus in dual roll and to help students with their training so the schools are no longer double dipping into the same funds. This being a stout amount about 30 million. There are some smaller 4(s)-1(m)55t3(o ro)-10(n be)4(i).nto th5 Tdo n f.leS-2(s)and .

Newsletter set out September 2, 2016. The second is November 18, 2016. To have the Newsletter ready to be sent out November 28, 2016. NSA members can email the articles to Carlos.Fernandez@UNLV.edu. Please limit it to 500 words to keep consistency through out the

Force for Undocumented Students with the Vice President of Student Affairs. This is just the beginning of what UNLV is working towards. And as a reminder, despite any push back that a group might receive to try and partner with community organizations and continue to keep working to better this. That there will be continued partnerships with CSUN to get this done.

NSA Chair Desieree DeCosta states that Nevada State College has a similar program to help DACA and first gen students that was started as a NSA initiative, to help push the program that was already started.

10. OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES (INFORMATION)

NSA Secretary David Turner states that TMCC is looking to expand into Open Education Resources. Currently Nevada is one of two states that is not using Open Education Resources as a whole. Stating that Nevada has the resources and the students in need to get this started. Open Education Resources is a data base that is peer reviewed by credible sources. An instructor or professor is able to utilize the resource and build their curriculum through the open education resource, creating in essence a text book that student is then able to access. The student is then able to print it out or use it online. The ideal classes to start with this resource are Math, English and Remedial Science classes, to help alleviate the cost of these text books for students.

Some of the concerns are with the protection of intellectual property. Which most of the colleges and universities have data bases through their libraries that a student has to login into to be able to access. This can be bypassed by creating a Nevada Open Education Resource Network that students would have to be able to log in to, to be able to retrieve the resources. Similar to Oregon's, Open Oregon Educational Resource, OpenOregon.org.

This site breaks it down into institution and course which lists all materials the student needs. Similar to programs such as MyMathLab or Aleks. Where a student is able to do their homework and read texts that they need for their classes. This can be done through an institute's online Library resource, which TMCC is looking to be creating one.

One of TMCC's professors has stepped up and is starting to pave the way for the open education resource through one of TMCC's 200 level Business Classes. Which is something that can be taken to the Board of Regents to get an Open Nevada Educational Resource, that Nevada's institutes are able to utilize and add to whenever they see fit to do so.

NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez states approval for this initiative. That students are struggling with the tuition hikes that are mandated by our Board of Regents. That using this work as an example, and having this taken to a Board of Regents meeting coming up, to show the Regents what the NSA has going on. That CSUN spends over \$25,000 a year on a text book reserve for the library. Where this could create a digital catalog one save some money and two save on paper.

NSA Chair Desieree DeCosta feels that this is important and that this does need to be added to the Board of Regents December agenda. That there is an importance for these resources. That NSC has a completely digitized, cloud based library, so a student can remotely access the library. This is something we should consider bring to the Board of Regents.

NSA Member Jill Robinson states that CSN is looking into ways to implement this as there is a monopoly with the book store. Currently two Political Science instructors utilize this kind of resource. That students so far have not found any issues with this resource.

11. NEW BUSINESS
(INFORMATION)

No new business at this time.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT
(INFORMATION)

No new public comment at this time

13. ADJOURNMENT

NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta Adjourns the meeting at 5:34 p.m.