

**NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)**

**Minutes**

**October 13, 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 Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez at 4:01 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

Ms. Desiree DeCosta, Nevada State College, NSSA (NSA Chair) Absent  
Mr. Carlos Fernandez, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN (NSA Vice Chair) Present  
Mr. David Turner II, Truckee Meadows Community College, (NSA Secretary) Present  
Mr. Brandon Boone, University of Nevada, Reno, ASUN Present  
Mr. Sandesh Kannan, University of Nevada, Reno, GBA Present  
Ms. Augustina Fernandez, Great Basin College, SGA Present  
Ms. Diana Gurrola, Western Nevada College, ASWN Present  
Ms. Meghan Pierce, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, GPPSA Present  
Ms. Jill Robinson, College of Southern Nevada, ASCSN Present  
Mr. Deep Sengupta, Desert Research Institute, GRAD Present

**3. GUEST RECOGNITION:**

Ms. Renée Davis, Director of Student Affairs with the Nevada System of Higher Education  
Ms. Sara Weston, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Student  
Ms. Samantha Bivins, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN, Senator College of Liberal Arts  
Mr. Marclém Hernández, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN, Chief of Staff  
Mr. Fabian Donate, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN, Interim Public Relations Administrator  
Mr. Steven Cohen, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN, Student  
Ms. Adriana Mendez, Great Basin College, Student Advocate  
Mr. Michael Ausben, University of Nevada, Reno, Electronic Technologies Committee Member, Vice President and Legislative Director of the Federation of the Blind of Nevada

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez introduces the guests present at the NSHE System Admin Office 101.

NSA Member Brandon Boone introduces guest Mr. Michael Ausben a student at UNR who is knowledgeable with accessibility.

Mr. Michael Ausben states the importance for the creation of an Accessibility Resolution to ensure equal access to education for students with disabilities. Pointing out that there are a few issues with the NSA Accessibility Resolution with the specific definitions of and including, developmental, cognitive, learning disabilities, intellectual and mobility. This leaves out students with physical disabilities such as blindness, hearing, impaired deafness, etc. Urging to take into consideration this perspective, as well as HR6122 The Accessible Instructional Materials in Higher Education Act.

NSA Member Jill Robinson upon reviewing the UNLV resolution states how thrilled she is to see something like this go through. That CSN currently no longer offers physiological assistance through their CAPS programs. Pointing out that students have now been sent to UNLV for assistance. That a Resolution like the one from UNLV might be something to implement for CSN as well.

- 5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**  
 NSA Member Jill Robinson moves to approve the minutes from September 8, 2016 a.m. meeting. NSA Member Meghan Pierce seconds.  
 Minutes approved by majority vote.

- 6. **NSA NEWSLETTER:** **INFORMATION**  
 NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez states that the NSA Newsletter is an opportunity for the NSA to show the public what is taking place and has been done at each institution. It is also a chance to show what the NSA as a whole is coming together with to get things done. November 18, 2016 is the deadline to have information submitted for what is taking place at each member's individual institutions. The word count for each article is no more than 500 words. This is to have the Newsletter ready for the Board of Regents meeting taking place in Las Vegas December 1-2, 2016. NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez will send out a reminder to all members before the dead line, to make sure there is time for edits or additional information.

- 7. **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** **INFORMATION**  
 NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez reminds the members that NSA Member Brandon Boone did bring a guest regarding this information item that brought up some good points. The resolution was also sent out to all members that mirrors, more as the NSA, the UNLV Vice President. This would be the NSA adopting the resolution itself. NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez asks for clarification on whether or not the NSA can take any action with this item or not.

Ms. Renée Davis points out that this is an information item. The material that was sent out regarding UNLV's resolution should have been sent out sooner if this was going to be an action item. That the NSA can return to this item as an action item at the next meeting.

NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez states that the Senator that he is personally sponsoring this resolution for is one of the guests at his location, Ms. Samantha Bivins. Ms. Samantha Bivins will read through the resolution with the NSA members so that every member is aware of the content.

Ms. Samantha Bivins reads through the Accessibility Resolution. (See Attachments A) brought up that the Resolution did not state physical disabilities. However, as this is only a point of discussion, not for action, that it should be amended to add the points that were brought up in Public Comment by Mr. Michael Ausben. There is supplemental material attached after the



NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez states that it might be pertinent of each member to take this back to their individual groups and have them pass resolution in support as well, to show that it isn't just the NSA but each institution. Having it go from the bottom all the way to the top.

**8. CHANCELLOR SEARCH COMMITTEE: INFORMATION**

NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez asks Ms. Renée Davis if there is any information she can give out in the absence of NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta

Ms. Renée Davis states that discussion mainly entailed further details the committee wanted to look for in a Chancellor. The decision was made to bring in a search consultant. It was centered on the advisory members giving input on the process.

NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez reminds the members about the letter that was sent out to all members about being more involved with the process. As well as reaching out to NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta with any questions or concerns.

**9. NEW BUSINESS INFORMATION**

NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez states in the past, the NSA voted in support Undocumented/DACA students. That a proposal/resolution will be sent out to be able to take it to the next level. To show that we can offer something more to Undocumented/DACA students.

**10. PUBLIC COMMENT INFORMATION**

NSA Secretary David Turner II gives the NSA an update about a student survey that was sent out at TMCC. The survey is to find out the student's opinions on pursuing an athletics program. So far 80% of the students who have taken the survey are in favor of bringing athletics to TMCC.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez adjourns the meeting at 4:30 p.m.