

NEVADA STUDENT ALLIANCE (NSA)

December 1, 2016

7:15 a.m.

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Student Union, Room 211

4505 S. Maryland Parkway

Las Vegas, NV 89154

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta at 7:25 a.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 – Present

Ms. Augustina Fernandez, Great Basin College, SGA – Absent

Mr. Sandesh Kannan, University of Nevada, Reno, GSA – Present 7:28 a.m.

Ms. Diana Gurrola, Western Nevada College, ASWN - proxy Kaitlin Lucky ASWNC Vice President

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

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

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

3. GUEST RECOGNITION:

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

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

Ms. Mevini Aponsu, Truckee Meadows Community College, SGA

Mr. Marclem Hernandez, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, CSUN

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez welcomes every to UNLV and hopes that everyone's travels were safe. Mr. Carlos Fernandez looks forward to everyone visiting UNLV.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez moves to approve the minutes of November 10, 2016

NSA Member Jill Robinson seconds.

Motion pass by majority vote.

6. NSA NEWSLETTER:

INFORMATION

NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez reminds all NSA members that at the beginning of the term, the NSA unanimously voted to have two Newsletters a semester, one for the fall, winter, spring and summer. There are some institutions that have not sent in any information for the Newsletter. This is an issue as this Newsletter is presented to the Board of Regents. It takes work to get this Newsletter together, deadlines are being missed and institutions are not included. Missing information about what is going on looks like the NSHE institutions are not together. This is not what the NSA wants to show the Board of Regents. The only time the NSA gets to showcase what we are all doing is in this Newsletter. Mr. Carlos Fernandez would like everyone to keep this in mind for the future Newsletters and hopes that each institution is able to turn in something for what is happening. The dates will be sent out and as a reminder that it should be

sent in at least 3 weeks before the Board of Regents meetings. This also means to include pictures, that the Newsletter has room for a page of pictures and a page for text.

NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta thanks Carlos Fernandez and his team for all their hard work with the Newsletter.

NSA Secretary David Turner reminds everyone to watch picture size.

NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez says that the team working on the Newsletter is great and able to work issues out. That they were able to find a picture to use. They will do what they can to make every institution proud to show the Newsletter off.

NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta informs the NSA that this Newsletter only has information from four out of the seven institutions, however it will still be going out.

NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez informs the NSA that the Newsletter will be sent out to everyone and posted to the NSHE website.

7. NSA CHAIR'S REPORT

INFORMATION

NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta informs the NSA that the initiatives such as, "It's On Us", DACA and the Resolution for Accessibility for Students with Disabilities that was just passed will be presented. How the NSA is gearing up for the new legislative session, the Newsletter and its progression will also be presented. Each institution will have highlights brought up, but not every initiative will be.

NSA Member Jill Robinson informs the NSA that she just had a meeting with CSN President Dr. Richards and that they will be launching a survey for a Food Bank. That some of the ASCSN members have been down to UNLV to see how the Food Bank there operates. This is the main initiative that is currently being worked on at CSN.

NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta will be closing with a giving back holiday informational, that it seems like every member is doing something in relation to the holidays and giving back. WNC NSC wrapping presents for the Food Bank, TMCC is also working with the Food Bank.

NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez says that UNLV always do the Food Bank, as well as UNR.

NSA Member Meghan Pierce says that in February the GPSA is doing a drive, the organization is still being decided upon. Last year was a social event for a social cause and they had a drive for Safe Nest. The drive was for anything that they needed. They had a representative come out and speak at the event, before they had gone to the event they provided a list of everything that was needed for their facilities. Common house hold items, sheets, toilet paper, clothing, cookware. The GPSA also does a food drive every month for the Food Bank.

NSA Member Jill Robinson to add to the giving back for the holiday closing, two of the clubs that are sponsored by the ASCSN, Brother to Brother and Sister to Sister are doing a coat and food drive until Dec. 14. They will be collecting food and clothing to send off to students in need so that students have food and warm clothes over the winter break.

8. **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING DACA AND UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS:** **INFORMATION**

NSA Vice Chair Carlos Fernandez expresses that it is important, now more than ever, that we are here to support DACA students and that a resolution in support of that is imperative. That the current draft goes along with what some of the institutions such as UNLV and UNR already have in place so that all parties are on the same page. There are a few changes that are needed, but for the most part this is what the resolution would look like.

NSA Member Brandon Boone states that a possible addition to the resolution relates to a recent issue that arose at UNR with an Undocumented student's ability to volunteer on campus. There is a system policy that currently makes it so that any person, faculty, staff, student, that waves their rights for any volunteer position has to be eligible to work, this is so they are eligible for workers compensation. This has become an issue at UNR because we are trying to make the Administrative Manual match the System Code. It is making it so students who are undocumented, cannot hold a position. Which should be addressed or added to the resolution. Rather than creating an all new resolution. There are three main parts to student engagement, those are living in Res Halls, Student Employment and involvement opportunities like Student Government. Making Student Employment not an option and Res Halls too expensive for DACA students. This only leaves different types of involvements, but this policy is cutting that.

NSA Member Jill Robinson would like to try and work with administration about fixing that issue as well. The previous president was a DACA student and the Student Government is a paying job. Which doesn't make sense as we are all NSHE.

Ms. Lilly Leon-Vicks states that there are work permits and some students will get those.

NSA Vice Chair Carlos believes that Brandon is referring to students that are undocumented but not DACA. As they do not have work permits.

NSA Member Jill Robinson states that she is still learning about all the aspects of this herself, as each case is different from the next. The only concern with the Resolution is protection for the institution. In the beginning, there was some hesitation from the regents with us fighting for proposals like this. The fear is with the pushback on a federal level with us taking a stance like this. The worry is how to protect ourselves and the institutions. To double check that we are doing everything legally on our end. To maybe have the Regents come in here next to go over this with us.

NSA Vice Chair Carlos adds, after meeting with the Vice President of governmental affairs. As long as we are not standing in defiance, saying that the university will keep ICE from coming in, not defiant to the law.

Ms. Renée Davis adds, to give some background on the residency, the Regents policy is that if you are a High School graduate of Nevada, regardless of your citizenship status, you are considered a Nevada resident. So that is not even a factor for tuition purposes. This flew under the radar of the State Legislators, as there is some polarization there regarding these kinds of issues. This is why the Regents are hesitant to shed light on this issue because there is a rather large population that is able to go to school and pay in state tuition for being a high school graduate even though they are undocumented. The other part of this, because of rulings in other regional federal courts, states are not allowed to offer benefits to non-residents, that they don't

offer to other states. When you get to the actual residency issues and determining someone's residency, then that is where it gets a little tricky. As there are students who come over from California after graduating from high school, and they are not residents for tuition purposes.

NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta states that each institution has already in a way been working on this at their own respective levels. That this resolution would be a nice way to show a plan of action at this level and to show support the students that we do all stand together. A statement from our collective would be really strong.

9. NEW BUSINESS

No new business

INFORMATION

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

INFORMATION

11. ADJURNMENT

NSA NSA Chair Desiree DeCosta adjourns the meeting at 7:48 a.m.