

**Sondra Cosgrove**  
**Candidate for President**

**Candidate Statement**

Nevada is in the midst of a historic watershed on a scale we haven't seen since the Great Depression. And as in the 1930s, to emerge from these dark days, it will be incumbent upon us all to actively engage in re-imagining our economic system and to really re-evaluate what is truly important to us individually and as a state. It will no longer be sufficient to depend on gaming, tourists, and new residents to pay for public services such as education. We will all have to create a future that includes not just new and diverse sources of jobs and revenues, but also expects each of us to secure for ourselves libraries, parks, and good schools as well as ensure that our neighbors throughout the state have the same.

We in education simply cannot survive if others do not value and contribute to our continued role in Nevada's future, so we must be willing to reciprocate. Our rugged individualism can still carry us into a bold future, but it will be altruism that guarantees we arrive whole and strong.

The Nevada Faculty Alliance is also experiencing a watershed as we attempt to properly advocate for faculty, staff and students. We have a long history sustaining us, but we have an equally uncertain future testing us. Our strong bonds will certainly keep our organization on the correct path, but we must be willing to also make some tough decisions as the sands shift under our feet on an ever increasing basis.

As the State NFA President I will support chapter presidents in recruiting members, setting priorities for each institution, and enabling each institution to pro-actively provide services for their unique needs.

At the State level I will also work to find and promote consensus among the institutions as well as respect minority positions as we move forward. With such a wide range of interests in the Nevada System of Higher Education we will need to achieve methods and means for reflecting that diversity in our positions and advocacy. Fortunately, with current technology IT IS now possible and much easier to allow all members to participate in policy and advocacy discussions as well as in decision-making processes. It is my belief that we should all have some say in what direction we wish to take and the positions we wish to promote, and I will make sure that the NFA provides the means for us all to do so.. I will always be available to answer questions, lend assistance, and to just listen.

No matter who becomes our next NFA State leaders, we must now pledge to stand together to help each other. We cannot let past solidarity fade away merely because we now face obstacles that won't last forever