

*Minutes approved by the Board of Regents at the September 5-6, 2024, meeting.*

**BOARD OF REGENTS and its  
HEALTH SCIENCES SYSTEM COMMITTEE  
NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

Desert Research Institute  
Frank H. Rogers Science & Technology Building, Rotunda  
755 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas  
Thursday, February 29, 2024

Video Conference Connection from the Meeting Site to:  
System Administration, Reno  
2601 Enterprise Road, Conference Room  
and  
Great Basin College, Elko  
1500 College Parkway, Berg Hall Conference Room

Members Present: Ms. Stephanie Goodman, Chair  
Mrs. Carol Del Carlo, Vice Chair  
Mrs. Susan Brager  
Ms. Laura E. Perkins  
Dr. Lois Tarkanian

Other Regents Present: Mrs. Amy J. Carvalho, Board Chair  
Dr. Jeffrey S. Downs, Board Vice Chair

Others Present: Ms. Keri D. Nikolajewski, Chief of Staff to the Board of Regents  
Dr. Daniel Archer, Vice Chancellor for Academic & Student Affairs  
Mr. James Martines, Vice Chancellor & Chief General Counsel  
Dr. Natalie J. Brown, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Workforce  
Development and Community Colleges  
Ms. Terina Caserto, Senior Analyst for Academic & Student Affairs  
Ms. Renée Davis, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic &  
Student Affairs  
Ms. Lynda P. King, Senior Associate General Counsel  
Mr. José Martinez, Director of Institutional Research  
Dr. Marinela Maskuti, Mental Health Wellness Officer  
Mr. José Quiroga, Research Analyst  
Mr. David Singleton, Academic & Transfer Policy Analyst  
Ms. Lauren Tripp, Interim Chief Internal Auditor  
Mr. Michael B. Wixom, Special Counsel to the Board of Regents  
Dr. Federico Zaragoza, CSN President  
Dr. Kumud Acharya, DRI President  
Ms. Joyce M. Helens, GBC President  
Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, NSU President  
Dr. Keith E. Whitfield, UNLV President  
Mr. Brian Sandoval, UNR President

UNR Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Peter Reed was in attendance. Student body presidents in attendance: Brayson Gomez, TMCC; Matthew Hawn, UNR-GSA; Robby Boparai, UNR Med; and Suzanna Stankute, WNC.

Chair Stephanie Goodman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all members present except for Regent Tarkanian.

Regent Tarkanian entered the meeting.

1. Information Only-Public Comment – Robby Boparai, UNR Med Student Body President, shared his thoughts and concerns regarding representation of medical students at Board meetings and in the overall NSHE community.
2. Approved-Minutes – The Committee recommended approval of the minutes from the September 7, 2023, meeting. *(Ref. HSS-2 on file in the Board office)*

Vice Chair Del Carlo moved approval of the minutes from the September 7, 2023, meeting. Regent Brager seconded. Motion carried.

3. Approved-Chair's Report – Chair Stephanie Goodman shared her excitement in chairing the Health Sciences System Committee and looks forward to tackling some of the healthcare issues that exist in Nevada. Working within Board policy, she intends to create a group comprised of medical school employees and community members to pursue GMEs in the state of Nevada, as she considers that one of her priorities as Committee Chair.
4. Information Only-UNLV Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine Report – Dr. Marc J. Kahn, Dean of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine, provided a report on the Medical School and Practice Plan, and offered general remarks which included information relating to graduate medical education, research, development and alumni relations, UNLV Health, and financial status. *(Ref. HSS-4 on file in the Board office on file in the Board office)*

Dean Kahn provided a report which included: undergraduate medical education; Graduate Medical Education; research pertaining to FY24 grant awards, grant proposals and clinical trials; diversity, equity and inclusion efforts; development: UNLV Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine Alumni Chapter, new programs, investitures and gratitude events, and a White Coat Campaign to support student scholarships; and UNLV Health: finance and patient volume (clinic visits, and hospital and surgery visits).

Vice Chair Del Carlo said collaboration is key and partnership is critical between the two NSHE medical schools, and she praised both deans on their work together. She commented on the critical need for residencies in Nevada and how there must be a concerted effort from the NSHE to meet that.

4. Information Only-UNLV Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine Report – *(continued)*

Chair Goodman said there is great value in the collaboration between the NSHE medical schools. She requested more detailed updates on the Practice Plan at future meetings.

5. Information Only-UNR School of Medicine Report – Dr. Paul J. Hauptman, Dean of the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine, provided a report on the Medical School and Practice Plan, and offered general remarks which included information relating to accreditation, programs, and funding. *(Ref. HSS-5 on file in the Board office)*

Dean Hauptman provided a report which included: strategic planning for 2024-2029; accreditation; MD Class of 2028 application status; GME spotlight on the ObGyn residency development; new federal grants; Nevada State Public Health Lab; continuing medical education: statistics, program highlights and partnerships; Project ECHO; key leadership and search updates; philanthropy: \$450,000 gift from Nevada Community Foundation, and \$500,000 from Health Plan of Nevada to improve access to behavior health sciences; collaboration between the UNLV and UNR medical schools; and affiliation collaboration and works in progress.

Vice Chair Del Carlo shared her support for the “Business of Medicine” elective for fourth year medical students. Dean Hauptman added it is a survey course of all aspects of business in medicine, primarily hospital-based and how hospitals/health systems run. The course also covers alternative careers and other avenues that are part of medicine. In response to a follow-up question from Vice Chair Del Carlo, Dean Hauptman provided an overview of the Clinical Learning Evaluation Review (CLER) – a hospital-based review that the accreditation body for GME runs. It is about suggesting improvements in the learning environment. Vice Chair Del Carlo commended Dean Hauptman and Dean Kahn’s leadership.

Regent Brager inquired about federal delegation and the importance of bringing more GMEs to Nevada. Dean Hauptman said there has not been a demonstrable funding for GME since the late 1990’s in regard to federal support. He added they are working diligently at the state level to garner more support, as it will take state support, philanthropy and the hospital stepping forward to support GME.

Regent Arrascada, Dean Hauptman and Dean Kahn discussed Nevada applicants and the acceptance rate between the two medical schools. Dean Hauptman said approximately 90 percent of UNR Med’s matriculated students are Nevada state residents and Dean Kahn said approximately 99 percent of the UNLV medical school students are Nevada state residents. Regent Arrascada asked about cohort numbers being increased and Dean Kahn answered that at UNLV’s next accreditation they will be requesting permission to increase those numbers by more than 10 percent which would result in a class size of 90. In order to do that, faculty will need to be increased. UNLV secured some funding for it in the last

5. Information Only-UNR School of Medicine Report – *(continued)*

Legislative Session and they are currently in the process of hiring around 80 faculty members.

Dean Kahn and Dean Hauptman discussed outreach programs in high schools and the robust effort by the medical schools to share information about careers in healthcare in an attempt to create a bigger impact by creating a strong pipeline. Dean Hauptman spoke about UNR Med's pathway programs and added that the growth of GME is one of the bigger issues in the healthcare industry currently.

Regent Arrascada asked if there is an emphasis on applicant acceptance for those committed to practice in rural communities. Dean Hauptman said UNR Med does look favorably on those who would like to practice in rural communities and on students who come from rural communities. UNR Med has a loan repayment program for service in rural communities. Dean Kahn said the UNLV medical school sponsors a rural family medicine residency program in Winnemucca.

Regent Brager, Dean Kahn and Dean Hauptman discussed outreach to career technical academies and how it is critical to connect with students not only in high schools, but junior high schools and younger when possible. Dean Hauptman added that UNR Med has a successful post-baccalaureate program because there are students who have graduated but decide to return to school to study medicine – the post-baccalaureate program is a pathway to that.

Regent Brager and Dean Hauptman addressed the issue of student access to studying medicine and how the Nevada public medical schools are relatively affordable options; however, efforts for seeking additional tuition support for students are constantly ongoing.

Chair Goodman and Dean Hauptman discussed the current data on the NSHE medical schools' graduate retention in Nevada, and she congratulated both deans on the high retention rates.

6. Information Only-UNLV School of Dental Medicine Community Outreach – Dr. James Mah, Interim Dean and Director of Advanced Education Program in Orthodontics, UNLV School of Dental Medicine, presented information on various community outreach programs including Crackdown on Cancer, Seal Nevada South, and the Early Childhood Caries Prevention Project. *(Ref. HSS-6 on file in the Board office)*

Interim Dean Mah provided a presentation which included: community service clinics: Sgt. Clint Ferrin Memorial Veterans Clinic, Women's Clinic, Children's Clinic, Smiles Dental Clinic, and Give Kids a Smile Clinic; community outreach initiatives: Crackdown on Cancer – 2001-2010, Seal Nevada South – 2010-Present, Early Childhood Caries Prevention Projects (ECCPP) – 2017-Present,

6. Information Only-UNLV School of Dental Medicine Community Outreach –  
*(continued)*

and Impact – 2011-Present; and future programs: Athletic Protection for Youth, and partnership and collaboration with the VA.

Chair Goodman and Interim Dean Mah discussed the dental school's collaboration with the professional sports teams in Nevada, involving the UNLV Sports Medicine program. Chair Goodman thanked Dean Mah for leading the dental school's community outreach efforts.

Vice Chair Del Carlo and Interim Dean Mah discussed the cost of mouth guards, which range from \$500 to over \$1,000. They also spoke on the dire need for veterans, particularly in northern and rural areas of Nevada, to have access to dental care and the efforts made by the community and Dental School to address the issue.

Before introducing the next item, Chair Goodman stated that because the Health Sciences Committee does not meet often, she believes the Committee should be allotted an hour and a half to meet at quarterly meetings.

7. Information Only-NSHE Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SMHSA) Grant – Dr. Marinela Maskuti, NSHE Mental Health Wellness Officer, presented an overview of the \$2.7 million grant NSHE received from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The presentation included the scope of work and deliverables of the grant; mental health training programs provided; administration of a System-wide survey assessment and the results; and future recommendations. *(Ref. HSS-7 on file in the Board office)*

Dr. Maskuti provided a presentation which included: an overview of the Mental Health Grant – SAMHSA Funding, grant deliverables and scope of work; role of the Mental Health Wellness Officer; mental health training programs; Mental Health First Aid and Suicide Awareness and Prevention; Systemwide Mental Health Survey Assessment and results including participation rates and overall feedback; training workshops, and communication of and access to resources and services; service experience and improvements; and future recommendations for continuation of support for mental health.

Vice Chair Del Carlo and Interim Chancellor Patricia Charlton discussed Governor Lombardo establishing mental health and wellness as a top priority for the State. Interim Chancellor Charlton said that although the SAMHSA Grant cannot be extended or added to because of the sunset, mental health is included in the current NSHE budget priorities to be presented to the Board for approval for the 2025 Legislative Session. Vice Chair Del Carlo asked if the mental health budget priority includes funding for a mental health wellness officer at the System-level. Interim Chancellor Charlton answered that she is having ongoing

7. Information Only-NSHE Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SMHSA) Grant – *(continued)*

conversations with her team regarding staff for mental health support at the NSHE.

Chair Goodman thanked Dr. Maskuti for her presentation and emphasized the importance of mental health support within the NSHE, especially with suicide awareness and training.

8. Information Only-New Business – None.

9. Information Only-Public Comment – None.

The meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Prepared by: Winter M.N. Lipson  
Special Assistant and Coordinator to the Board of Regents

Submitted for approval by: Keri D. Nikolajewski  
Chief of Staff to the Board of Regents