

**BOARD OF REGENTS and its
SECURITY COMMITTEE
NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

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

Members Present: Mr. Donald Sylvantee McMichael Sr., Chair
Mr. Byron Brooks
Ms. Heather Brown
Dr. Jeffrey S. Downs

Member Absent: Mr. Patrick J. Boylan, Vice Chair

Others Present: Ms. Patricia Charlton, Interim Chancellor
Mr. James Martines, Vice Chancellor & Chief General Counsel
Mr. Chris Viton, Vice Chancellor of Budget & Finance/
Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Alejandro Rodriguez, Director of Government Relations
Dr. Kumud Acharya, DRI President
Dr. Karin M. Hilgersom, TMCC President
Dr. Keith E. Whitfield, UNLV President
Dr. J. Kyle Dalpe, WNC President

Faculty senate chairs in attendance: Patrick Villa, CSN; JD Lancaster, DRI; David Sexton, GBC; Dr. Molly Appel, NSU; Dr. Eric “Rick” Bullis, TMCC; Dr. Bill Robinson, UNLV; and Rachelle Bassen, WNC.

Chair Donald Sylvantee McMichael Sr. called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. with all members present except for Vice Chair Boylan.

1. Information Only-Public Comment – Doug Unger thanked the Security Committee, NSHE Northern and Southern Command Directors Eric James and Adam Garcia, and Interim Chancellor Charlton for establishing the ad hoc Committee on Public Safety. He shared his hope that the Regents will consider including significant funding for safety on all campuses in the NSHE budget.

2. Approved-Minutes – The Committee recommended approval of the minutes from the September 7, 2023, meeting. (*Ref. SEC-2 on file in the Board office*)

Regent Downs moved approval of the minutes from the September 7, 2023, meeting. Regent Brown seconded. Motion carried. Vice Chair Boylan was absent.

3. Information Only-Chair’s Report – Chair McMichael did not provide a report.

4. Information Only-NSHE Southern Command – Adam Garcia, Vice President of Public Safety and Director of University Police Services, Southern Command, presented an update on the Southern Command’s 2023 Annual Activity Report related to public safety activities including grants, hiring and recruiting, events, activities, police academy operations, and personnel matters. In addition, Director Garcia presented the 2023 Annual Security Report outlining crime statistics that have occurred at NSHE campuses served by Southern Command, pursuant to the Jeanne Clery Crime Statistics Act (20 USC 1092). (*Refs. SEC-4a, SEC-4b and SEC-4c on file in the Board office*)

Vice President Garcia provided a report which included: 2021-2023 calls for service; foot patrol data for 2023; hiring and recruiting; the academy; community partners and relationships; community events: “Donuts with Dogs”, “Pizza with Police”, “Coffee with a Cop”, elementary school career days, Holiday Village, and involvement fairs; training: MACTAC, racial profiling, mental health, officer well-being, implicit bias recognition, de-escalation, human trafficking, and firearms; department therapy dogs; and the Clery 2023 Annual Security Report (The 2023 annual security reports were completed by University Police Services, Southern Command containing statistics for calendar year 2020-2022. These statistics were reported to the United States Department of Education in October 2023).

Regent Downs and Vice President Garcia discussed the challenges presented by the homeless presence on the campuses and Vice President Garcia’s work with UNLV President Keith Whitfield to create a region-wide process in response to the issue. In addition, a HOPE (Homeless Outreach and Protective Engagement) unit has been created which is committed to homelessness issues in and around the southern campuses.

Regent Brown thanked Vice President Garcia for creating a culture where students feel engaged and that the police services are a part of the campuses and not just a presence on campuses. She also commended Vice President Garcia for the events that the Southern Command hosts to engage the campus communities. Regent Brown said it has been three months since the December 6 tragedy on the UNLV campus and asked what has been heard/recommended from campus leaders in response to the tragedy and how the Board can be supportive. Vice President Garcia replied that the upcoming report on the Chancellor’s ad hoc Committee on Public Safety will address her inquiries.

5. Information Only-NSHE Northern Command – Eric James, Chief of Police, Northern Command, presented an update on the Northern Command’s activities through December 31, 2023, including department initiatives, the campus security officer program, and organizational resilience and department highlights. Information related to Clery Act compliance and campus crime statistics for the northern institutions, with the exception of DRI, was also presented. (*Refs. SEC-5a, SEC-5b and SEC-5c on file in the Board office*)

Chief James provided a report which included: data for 2023: citizen contacts, Computer Automated Dispatch (CAD) incidents and foot patrol hours; campus partnerships with the UNR Veterans Resources Center, WNC continuing education women’s self-defense class, UNR Department of Psychology, UNR Environmental Health and Safety, and

5. Information Only-NSHE Northern Command – *(continued)*

the UNR Police Service Advisory Group to participate in a virtual reality simulator; department updates: Police2Peace Video, Threat Assessment Team development, Regional Domestic Violence Work Group, Blue Light Phone update, Joining Forces Grant, and the Jag Bola Wrap; Human Exploitation and Trafficking (HEAT) data for September-December 2023 and the data as of January 18, 2024; community outreach: self-defense classes, active assailant response and community classes; community initiatives: UPD Public Relations Internship, safety presentations with CREST Scholars and Upward Bound, Mobile Monday Monthly Tabling, community self-defense at Safe Embrace Women’s Shelter, and “Coffee with a Cop”; organizational resilience highlights; internal department highlights; and the 2023 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report for the northern institutions.

Regent Brown commended Chief James on the engagement activities with students on the northern campuses. She also stated the HEAT map is an invaluable tool and resource.

6. Information Only-NSHE Cybersecurity – Dr. Anne Milkovich, System Computing Services Chief Information Officer, and Thomas Dobbert, System Computing Services Chief Information Security Officer, presented an update on cybersecurity at NSHE, including current industry trends, NSHE-specific challenges, preventative measures, and cybersecurity opportunities.

Dr. Milkovich provided introductory remarks.

Mr. Dobbert provided a report which included: multi-factor authentication (MFA); verified updates and patches to software; built-in cybersecurity component for systems utilized; collaboration among all NSHE institutions for cybersecurity and compliance issues; December 2023 tabletop exercise and penetration test with the Chancellor’s Cabinet; SCS’s recent participation (November 2023) in a national cybersecurity exercise and it will be continuing on an annual basis; plans for an upcoming NSHE-wide technical tabletop exercise; SCS hired a third-party company to conduct a penetration test on the NSHE network that includes all the NSHE institutions and NevadaNet which resulted in only one vulnerability found in the Reno Data Center and minor findings in the Las Vegas Data Center – all have since been remediated; collaboration with the Nevada State Office of Information Security; an overview of the 2024 State CIO Summit at WNC which took place on February 23; and updates on eduroam.

Regent Brown and Mr. Dobbert discussed Grammarly currently being on the banned software list for state-owned devices while licensing and security issues are being resolved, and students utilizing Grammarly for coursework is a separate issue.

7. Information Only-Chancellor’s ad hoc Committee on Public Safety – Adam Garcia, Vice President of Public Safety and Director of University Police Services, Southern Command, and Chair of the Chancellor’s ad hoc Committee on Public Safety, provided an update on the activities of the Committee, including its charge, membership, and progress.

7. Information Only-Chancellor's ad hoc Committee on Public Safety – (continued)

Vice President Garcia provided an update which included: the committee meeting twice since being established and various subcommittees having been created with different assignments; mobile credentialing processes; proposed universal locking mechanisms to be used throughout the NSHE; review of current and proposed training modules for critical events including building-specific emergency plans and campuswide institutional and leadership training; review of policies related to response to emergency crises and campus safety initiatives; identifying staffing required to create emergency management protocols; and the identification of various funding sources that could be used for Systemwide safety training and equipment.

8. Information Only-New Business – Regent Brown recommended the following items for new business: She stated there is a lack of consistency in how the Northern and Southern Command reports are presented and requested the creation of a statistics guidelines for both commands to follow and share information; requested staff to research expanding the Virtual Reality google and HEAT map programs Systemwide; and requested the Security Committee meet more than twice a year, especially as the Chancellor's ad hoc Committee on Public Safety makes recommendations for the NSHE institutions.

9. Information Only-Public Comment – Dr. Molly Appel, NSU Faculty Senate Chair, shared her appreciation for the work being accomplished by the Chancellor's ad hoc Committee on Public Safety. She also shared her thoughts on the advantages of utilizing AI on the campuses and her concerns for students using programs such as Grammarly.

Patrick Villa, CSN Faculty Senate Chair, shared his concerns about the homeless presence on the CSN campuses and the need for guidance on how to address the issue.

Dr. Bill Robinson, UNLV Faculty Senate Chair, and Dr. Kent Ervin offered comments regarding the urgency to address security and mental health issues on the campuses and academic matters pertaining to AI.

The meeting adjourned at 10:13 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