# BOARD OF REGENTS NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Great Basin College Fitness Center 1500 College Parkway, Elko

Thursday, September 11, 2025 Friday, September 12, 2025

Video Conference Connection from the Meeting Site to: System Administration, Las Vegas 4300 South Maryland Parkway, Board Room

> System Administration, Reno 2601 Enterprise Road, Conference Room

Members Present: Mr. Byron Brooks

Ms. Stephanie Goodman Mr. Joseph C. Arrascada Mr. Aaron Bautista Mr. Patrick J. Boylan Mrs. Susan Brager Ms. Heather Brown Mrs. Amy J. Carvalho Mrs. Carol Del Carlo Dr. Jeffrey S. Downs Mr. Carlos D. Fernandez Mr. Pete Goicoechea

Ms. Jennifer J. McGrath

Others Present: Mr. Matt McNair, Chancellor

Dr. Daniel Archer, Vice Chancellor for Academic & Student Affairs Mr. James Martines, Vice Chancellor & Chief General Counsel Ms. Keri D. Nikolajewski, Chief of Staff to the Board of Regents Mr. Chris Viton, Vice Chancellor of Budget & Finance/ Chief

Financial Officer

Ms. Renée Davis, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic & Student Affairs

Mr. Chris Nielsen, Special Counsel to the Board of Regents

Ms. Carrie L. Parker, Deputy General Counsel

Mr. Alejandro Rodriguez, Director of Government Relations

Ms. Ashley Salisbury, Director of Student Affairs

Ms. Lauren Tripp, Chief Internal Auditor

Dr. Marcia Turner, Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences

Mr. Michael B. Wixom, Special Real Property Counsel

Dr. Stacy S. Klippenstein, CSN President

Others Present: (continued) Dr. Kumud Acharya, DRI President

Dr. Amber Donnelli, GBC Interim President Dr. Amber Lopez Lasater, NSU Officer in Charge Dr. Jeffrey W. Alexander, TMCC President

Dr. Chris Heavey, UNLV Interim President

Mr. Brian Sandoval, UNR President Dr. J. Kyle Dalpe, WNC President

Faculty senate chairs in attendance: Tracy Sherman, CSN; Dr. Vera Samburova, DRI; Oscar Sida, GBC; Dr. El Hachemi Bouali, NSU; Cruz Laudenslager, System Administration; Dr. Jinger Doe, TMCC; Dr. Maria Roberts, UNLV; Dr. Jennifer McLendon, UNR; and Eric York, WNC. Student body presidents in attendance: Sovereign Hone, CSN; Jennifer Rodriguez Serrano, GBC; Lahana Pearce, NSU; Brianna Malasaga, TMCC; Kelechi Odunze, UNLV-CSUN; Devin Lopez, UNLV-GPSA; Carmina Aglubat, UNR-ASUN; Ratchanya Dev Chinnappan, UNR-GSA; Karla Salas, WNC; and Devan Glensor, UNR Med. NSHE Classified Council Scheduling Officer Arkaitz Aldecoaotalora-Muniosguren, TMCC, was also in attendance.

Chair Byron Brooks called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m. with all members present except Regent Fernandez. Cadets from the Battle Born Youth ChalleNGe Academy presented the colors and the Elko High School Choraliers led by Choir Director Mrs. Kim McKnight performed the National Anthem. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the GBC Chapter's Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society Vice President Valeria Mendoza.

Chair Brooks provided remarks in remembrance of the victims of 9/11 and honored the bravery of first responders who served and sacrificed that day. He spoke of the importance of not only storing knowledge as members of the academic and leadership community, but the responsibility of remembering those events to ensure future generations are taught the significance of 9/11, the cost of hatred, and the power of resilience. Chair Brooks asked for a moment of silence in remembrance and offered a prayer in following.

The meeting recessed at 11:11 a.m. and reconvened at 11:15 a.m. with all Regents present except Regent Fernandez.

Chair Brooks announced that Agenda Item 13 (Campus For Hope Partnership and Property Exchange Agreement, CSN) will be heard before Agenda Item 10 (NSHE Funding Adequacy and Equity Student), and Agenda Item 23 (Global Campus Exploration – Incheon, South Korea, UNLV) will be heard before Agenda Item 22 (Global Campus Exploration – Hainan Province, China, UNLV).

1. <u>Information Only-Public Comment</u> – Princess Tolano and Sean Curry spoke in opposition of implementing a 2.95 percent fee for students who pay tuition with credit cards.

Pio Rejas, Bella Hubshmer, Rylee Brooks, Charlette Cameron, Kelechi Odunze and Storm Raine expressed concerns about and do not support the proposed 10-11 percent additional tuition increases as it would create a barrier to higher education for many students. They asked that the Board consider a phased-in tuition hike.

# 1. <u>Information Only-Public Comment</u> – (Continued)

Lahana Pearce and Stephanie Flores asked the Board to consider how agenda items 10 and 11 would shape the future of higher education affordability in Nevada. They expressed that any tuition or fee increase must center the students most at risk of being priced out.

Dylan Hinton thanked the Board for its attention to comments offered about systemic discrimination and corruption within the NSHE at a previous meeting and urged the Board to hold an informational hearing on a former UNLV employee accused of sexual harassment over their 18-year tenure. After an overwhelming number of complaints were received, the former UNLV employee resigned.

The following individuals offered their support to appoint Dr. Amber Donnelli as the permanent President of GBC: Dr. Staci Warnert, Dr. Joyce Helens, Valeria Mendoza, Jon Karr, Delmo Andreozzi, Yvonne Naungayan, John Rice, Caroline McIntosh, Dave Sexton, Storm Raine, Matt Petersen, Dr. Christopher Salute and Jason Farnsworth.

Devin Lopez supported the efforts of graduate assistants and workers to organize and unionize.

Ethan McNamara shared support for Isabella Hatch who is being considered for appointment to the Power-Based Violence Task Force.

Cathy McAdoo thanked the Regents for their service, extended condolences for the passing of former CSN President Dr. Mike Richards and shared support for appointing Dr. Amber Donnelli as the permanent President of GBC.

The following individuals submitted public comment via the NSHE online form expressing opposition to agenda items 24 (<u>Code</u> Amendments, Officers of the Nevada System of Higher Education), 26 (*Handbook* Revision, Professional Staff Collective Bargaining Regulations) and 29 (Review of Post-Tenure Review Policy): Corey Fernandez, Jeremy Bowling, Venessa Peterson, Louis Magriel, Erika Abad, Emily Hobson, Joy Patrick and Christine Beaudry,

Angela Brown submitted public comment via the NSHE online form expressing their opinion on tenured faculty.

The following individuals submitted public comment via the NSHE online form expressing opposition to Agenda Item 26 (*Handbook* Revision, Professional Staff Collective Bargaining Regulations): Staci Walters, Emily Rafael, Ellery Sills, Leila Pazargadi, Paul Sumby, Brison Cowan, Smita Rao, Greta de Jong, Sue Wainscott, Austin Pratt, Erica Tietjen and Amy Reed-Sandoval.

The following individuals submitted public comment via the NSHE online form discussing issues with the External Funding policy (*Title 4, Chapter 4, Section 9*): David Feil-Seifer, Ivy Guild and Samantha Jewell.

## 1. <u>Information Only-Public Comment</u> – (Continued)

Doug Unger submitted public comment via the NSHE online form expressing opposition to agenda items 26 (*Handbook* Revision, Professional Staff Collective Bargaining Regulations) and 29 (Review of Post-Tenure Review Policy).

The following individuals submitted public comment via the NSHE online form expressing support for Agenda Item 6 (Program Proposal, Ph.D. Multilingual Education, UNLV) on the September 11, 2025, Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee meeting agenda: Catharine Lory, John Butler, Hilda Anderson, Alejandra Linares Sierra, Carter Miller, Ivette Gutierrez, Sue Ann Jurgens, Barry Reid, Gloria Galvan, Lee Buono, Chelsea Gomez, Suzanne Romero, Cheylee Meteer, Christopher Percy, Gisel Gonzalez, Robert Alex Smith, Erin Smith, Feben Worku, Dayva Lewis, Gloria Carcoba Falomir, Gerilyn Slicker, Amber Atteberry, Sarah Surrain, Richard Schwindt, Zhiling Shea, Heidi Herrera, Miuriel Reyes, Sharolyn Pollard-Durodola, Alicia Meier, Alien Chouza Carrillo, Windy Saelee, Cindy Flores, Jenna Weglarz-Ward, Paola Zepher, Craig Nicholaisen, Melina Arriaza and Omar Arteaga.

Christy Yip submitted public comment via the NSHE online form expressing opposition to implementing a 2.95 percent fee for students who pay tuition with credit cards.

Emily Hobson submitted public comment via the NSHE online form expressing opposition to Agenda Item 29 (Review of Post-Tenure Review Policy).

S. Smith submitted public comment via the NSHE online form expressing concerns regarding ongoing hiring and promotional practices under UNLV Interim President Chris Heavey.

Kimberly Brock submitted public comment via the NSHE online form expressing concerns regarding DEI policies and gender ideology at UNLV and UNR.

The following individuals submitted public comment via the NSHE online form requesting the Board to consider student voices in the prospect of increasing student registration fees for four-year universities by 11-12 percent, and for two-year colleges by 4-6 percent: Bella Hubshman, Nancy Munoz, Jessica Caseman and Hailey Gabriel.

Chelsea Herrington submitted public comment via the NSHE online form expressing concerns with displaying the flag of another nation and beginning with a prayer at a meeting for a public body that represents the State's higher education institutions.

Shea King submitted public comment via the NSHE online form expressing support for Agenda Item 26 (*Handbook* Revision, Professional Staff Collective Bargaining Regulations).

2. <u>Approved-Appointment of Dr. Amber Donnelli as President of GBC and New Employment Agreement</u> – The Board approved the following: 1) forgo a national search and appoint current Great Basin College Interim President Amber Donnelli to serve as President of GBC for a term commencing on or about September 13, 2025, through

2. <u>Approved-Appointment of Dr. Amber Donnelli as President of GBC and New Employment Agreement – (continued)</u>

September 12, 2029; and 2) approve a new Employment Agreement for Dr. Donnelli to serve as President of GBC (Refs. BOR-2a and BOR-2b on file in the Board Office).

Chancellor Matt McNair recommended the following: 1) forgo a national search and appoint current Great Basin College Interim President Amber Donnelli to serve as President of GBC for a term commencing on or about September 13, 2025, through September 12, 2029; and 2) approve a new Employment Contract for Dr. Donnelli to serve as President of GBC.

Chair Brooks asked the institution's major constituencies to provide their input to the Board. On behalf of their respective groups, leaders from all GBC constituencies shared their support for Dr. Amber Donnelli to be appointed as the next permanent President of GBC (Faculty Senate Chair Oscar Sida, Classified Council Chair Erendira Monroy Andrade, Student Body President Jennifer Rodriguez Serrano, Foundation Board of Trustees Chair Dr. Robert Colon and IAC Chair Terri Clark).

Regent Goicoechea moved approval to forgo a national search and appoint Dr. Amber Donnelli as GBC President and approve a new employment agreement. Regent Del Carlo seconded.

Regent Fernandez entered the meeting.

Regents Del Carlo, Brown, Downs and Fernandez expressed their whole-hearted support, commented on the outpouring from the GBC and Elko communities for her appointment, and shared their appreciation for her leadership and all she has done for the institution.

Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. Chair Brooks, Vice Chair Goodman, and Regents Arrascada, Bautista, Boylan, Brager, Brown, Carvalho, Del Carlo, Downs, Fernandez, Goicoechea and McGrath voted yes.

GBC Interim President Donnelli requested that everyone offer an act of kindness today because although people cannot ease the pain of the world, it can be honored by choosing compassion. Dr. Donnelli shared her deep gratitude and overwhelming sense of honor for being appointed President of Great Basin College. She acknowledged and thanked NSHE leadership, colleagues, faculty, staff, students, community partners, and her family for their support and believing in her.

The meeting recessed at 12:22 p.m. and reconvened at 12:37 p.m. with all Regents present except Regent Fernandez.

3. <u>Information Only-Regents' Welcome, Introductions and Reports (Agenda Item 4)</u> – Members of the Board of Regents were provided an opportunity to make introductions, welcome guests, offer acknowledgements, and report on activities beyond regular responsibilities such as attendance at conferences, serving as a liaison to public entities, and participation in legislative, civic and community events.

Regent McGrath congratulated Dr. Donnelli on her appointment as GBC President and thanked her for hosting the Board meeting on GBC's beautiful campus. She also thanked Dr. Donnelli's team for arranging the Nevada Gold Mines tour the previous day as it provided a wonderful learning experience and emphasized GBC and Dr. Donnelli's commitment to workforce issues in Nevada. Regent McGrath stated that one of Dr. Donnelli's most stunning achievements is her incredible work in public/private partnerships.

Regent Del Carlo congratulated Dr. Donnelli and thanked her for hosting the Board meeting and organizing the Nevada Gold Mines tour. In July, Regent Del Carlo attended the National Board of Directors meeting for ACCT and mentioned the upcoming National Leadership Congress in New Orleans. She thanked those from the four community colleges for attending, and the Regents, along with the Chancellor, who plan on attending the ACCT Leadership Congress in October. Regent Del Carlo said she will be appointed as ACCT's Chair of the Board of Directors at the October conference.

Regent Goicoechea welcomed everyone to Elko and congratulated Dr. Donnelli. He shared that Elko is a great community, and he feels privileged to be a Regent and represent all NSHE institutions, particularly those in the rural areas.

Regent Carvalho provided updates to the Board which included: participated in *Nevada Business Magazine's* education roundtable alongside Presidents Dalpe, Donnelli and Heavey and other education leaders in Nevada; attended the Nevada Cancer Coalition's Cancer Control Summit in August as a guest of one of the panelists and UNLV Health was recognized for its partnership with the Nevada Cancer Coalition; participated in a webinar about academic freedom and understanding its importance both on campus and within classrooms; and she invited everyone to Boulder City on September 27 for Boulder City Sunrise Rotary's 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Wurst Festival to benefit youth in southern Nevada, specifically in Boulder City, as it includes funds for scholarships for students attending higher education institutions.

4. <u>Information Only-Chair of the Nevada Student Alliance Report (Agenda Item 5)</u> – Jennifer Rodriguez Serrano, Nevada Student Alliance Chair, reported to the Board of Regents on NSHE-related issues and events of importance to the NSHE student body presidents.

NSA Chair Rodriguez Serrano provided a report which included: GBC-SGA: Beats and Bites event served over 150 students, purchased toolkits for CTE students who did not receive the MTC scholarship, submitted the updated constitution revisions to their legal team, and the upcoming national ASGA Conference in October in Washington, DC; NSU-NSSA: working on four student priorities: 1) lowering student costs; 2) ensuring transparency; 3) raising awareness; and 4) revising the NSSA's constitution and bylaws, launching two semesterly scholarships for student travel, testing fees and funding scrubs

4. <u>Information Only-Chair of the Nevada Student Alliance Report (Agenda Item 5)</u> – *(continued)* 

for the graduate SLP students, and upcoming fall events to be hosted by NSSA; TMCC-SGA: hosted a series of back-to-school events, outlined goals for the academic year which prioritize the development of new legislation and increasing student engagement at campus events; UNR-ASUN: hosted Welcome Week comprised of six different well-attended events, working on building the student advisory board and bringing back the historic homecoming parade, participated in Reno's Pride Parade, working on the annual iLead Conference for club leaders across 250+ organizations; UNR-GSA: hosted the annual GSA Retreat in August, has filled all vacant seats and operates with a full council, hosted the GSA breakfast which was the first event of the semester with a large turnout, will attend an international conference in the spring semester in partnership with the Ozmen Center for Entrepreneurship, the Institute of Global Studies and the E.L. Cord Center for Global Engagement; CSN-ASCSN: working with their cabinet to prepare for the shift of possible future fee implementations; UNLV-GPSA: recently approved the operating budget, working to provide students with resources to engage in democratic processes, adopted a resolution in support of students seeking to organize with NGSW-UAW, as well as a resolution last week indicating the opposition to the proposal of imposing fees on card payments for tuition; UNLV-CSUN: established a \$15,000 commuter fund to help students with transportation needs, working on creating an activity space in the John S. Wright Hall on campus for student activities and studying, working on heat-relief initiatives to mitigate the challenges at UNLV in the summer weather, and started funding student organizations after allocating \$614,000 to support student leaders in their development; and WNC-ASWN: working on boosting student engagement on both the Carson City and Fallon campuses, hosted welcome events on the first and second weeks of the semester, and planned upcoming events such as Constitution Day, Willy the Wildcat's Birthday, Oktoberfest, Coffee with a Cop, and Breast Cancer Awareness Day in October.

5. <u>Information Only-NSHE Classified Council Report (Agenda Item 6)</u> – Erendira Monroy Andrade, NSHE Classified Council (NCC) Executive Communications Officer, reported to the Board of Regents on NSHE-related issues and events of importance to classified employees across the System.

NSHE Classified Council Executive Communications Officer Monroy Andrade provided a report which included: introductions of the current sitting members on the NCC Executive Board; thanks to the outgoing NCC board members who will continue to serve as advisory members; regular meetings scheduled with the Chancellor and his Cabinet and the hope to establish the same with the Board; continuing to work on issues and concerns of the NSHE classified employees and the objective to remain focused on the welfare and the rights of all NSHE classified staff; and the development of implementing equity across the System.

6. <u>Information Only-Chair of the Council of Faculty Senate Chairs Report (Agenda Item 7)</u> – Dr. Jinger Doe, Chair of the Council of Faculty Senate Chairs, reported to the Board of Regents on NSHE-related issues and events of importance to the Faculty Senates.

# 6. <u>Information Only-Chair of the Council of Faculty Senate Chairs Report (Agenda Item 7)</u> – *(continued)*

Chair of the Faculty Senate Chairs Doe thanked Interim President Donelli and the GBC team for their hospitality. She also thanked her fellow faculty senate chairs for their contribution to the following statement she presented to the Board:

NSHE institutions serve approximately 110,000 students annually, a remarkable reach that would not be possible without the dedicated work of academic instructional faculty, librarians, counselors, and administrative faculty. Alongside our wonderful classified staff colleagues, we deliver high-quality instruction both in-person and online, reaching students in urban centers and rural communities alike.

Our programs prepare students for transfer, continued education, and direct entry into the workforce. Our workforce programs include areas where Nevada faces urgent shortages such as healthcare, education, and the skilled trades. These workforce-ready programs, often grounded in Career and Technical Education and community partnerships, help fuel the state's economy and provide students with life-changing opportunities. At the same time, faculty across NSHE engage in research and scholarship that includes both undergraduate and graduate students, driving innovation and contributing to Nevada's intellectual and economic growth.

Beyond the classroom, NSHE faculty create and support online learning programs, expanding access for students in rural communities and nontraditional learners. We also serve Nevada's citizens through cooperative extension, collaborate with local industries, and pursue research grants that not only advance knowledge but also create jobs for Nevadans by funding staff, student researchers, and community partnerships.

All of these efforts underscore the vital role faculty play, not just in student success but in statewide workforce development, community engagement, and economic growth. Nevada's future is stronger because of the work happening every day across our institutions, and we appreciate the Regents' continued support and recognition of this work.

Without strong and collaborative leadership we cannot accomplish our work. We thank the Board of Regents for your efforts in filling multiple Presidential vacancies in the last several years, and two in the near future. We appreciate your taking the time to find appropriate leaders for our institutions. We urge you to continue involving and listening to faculty, staff, students, and advisory boards in these decisions. As those most directly involved in the day-to-day life of our campuses, our voices can provide essential context and insight.

The Council of Faculty Senate Chairs want to express our appreciation for how the Board has affirmed its commitment to academic freedom. As noted in the BOR briefing paper for Title 2, Chapter 5, Sections 13 and 16:

"It is important to recognize that this review will not be focused on academic freedom, which is a cornerstone of higher education and remains firmly protected within NSHE.

6. <u>Information Only-Chair of the Council of Faculty Senate Chairs Report (Agenda Item 7)</u> – *(continued)* 

This protection affirms that faculty maintain independence over the intellectual direction of their teaching and scholarly research."

We thank the Board for clearly reaffirming its commitment to academic freedom and for preserving this essential foundation of higher education in Nevada. In an era when academic freedom is under pressure in many states, we commend the Regents for distinguishing Nevada through a thoughtful and measured approach. We are appreciative of the assurances of Chancellor McNair that stakeholder input, particularly that of faculty, will be considered during this process.

The Council of Faculty Senate Chairs has also discussed the proposed changes to Title 4 Chapter 4 that you will be voting on tomorrow. There is concern that these changes and clarifications were brought forward quickly. The briefing paper indicates that additional changes to Collective Bargaining Regulations may be forthcoming. We urge the Board and Chancellor to collaborate with stakeholders in the future.

In closing, we are proud to represent the faculty who make Nevada's public higher education system possible - those who teach, advise, mentor, research, and serve every single day. Through the Council of Chairs, we look forward to continuing our partnership with you to strengthen Nevada's educational system, its economy, and its communities.

7. <u>Information Only-Institutional Student and Faculty Presentations (Agenda Item 3)</u> – GBC Interim President Donnelli introduced a student and a faculty member to discuss a topic highlighting current programs and activities at the institution.

Interim President Donnelli welcomed the Board to the GBC campus in Elko and thanked the Regents for the opportunity to showcase some of the work happening at GBC that reflects the institution's mission of "Transforming Lives through Education."

The student presenter, Daniel Lara, provided a presentation on his educational journey which included: three goals after high school: 1) attend college without accruing debt; 2) stay close to home; and 3) find a meaningful career; Great Basin College being the right fit due to the local campus, MTC Scholarship, Industrial Maintenance Program, and Nevada Gold Mines internship; earning an Associate degree in Industrial Maintenance: welding, fabrication, hand tools, and pump repair; the MTC Scholarship's benefits impact on students and the industry; earning an Associate degree in Electrical Systems: lightbulbs to motor controls, Program Logic Controller, electrical system design and troubleshooting, and National Electric Code Compliance; and currently enrolled in the BAS Instrumentation Technology program sponsored by the Nevada Gold Mines, estimated graduation in Spring 2026, and will start career as a Tech 3.

The faculty presenter, Dr. Brian Dankowski, provided a presentation on the Medical Assistant, Phlebotomy, and EKG (MAPE) program which included: the curriculum for the MAPE program: 2-semester program, stacks three programs into one – CCMA CPT, CET, the only program of its kind in Nevada, and prepares students for three national

7. <u>Information Only-Institutional Student and Faculty Presentations (Agenda Item 3)</u> – *(continued)* 

credentialing exams; meeting community needs by serving rural Nevada; the program launched in Fall 2023 and graduated seven students in Spring 2024; program expanded to include Winnemucca and Pahrump locations to address the growing needs of healthcare in rural communities; seeking accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) – Medical Assisting Education Review Board (MAERB), site visit scheduled for October 2025; working to address needs of vulnerable populations; strong student enrollment and growth; and 100 percent pass rates on national exams.

Regent Arrascada and Dr. Dankowski discussed the MAPE program's expansion to Native American reservations and the anticipated start date (Spring 2026) of the all Native American Cohort which would combine the CNA and MAPE students totaling about 6 students at this time, and the Native American Health Science Training Grant which funds construction and supplies for expansion to Owyhee, Wells, and Fort McDermitt Native American reservations.

In response to an inquiry from Regent Goicoechea, Dr. Dankowski confirmed that the program would be accessible to Native American reservations statewide as it is a hybrid program and would utilize Zoom technology for lectures, and skills would be conducted onsite so that students do not have to travel.

Regent Del Carlo commended Dr. Dankowski on establishing the MAPE program and its continuing success.

Regent McGrath commented on the gender disparity and asked about program outreach to male students. Dr. Dankowski said that traditionally more female students enter into nursing and healthcare in general; however, two male students have enrolled and there are more in the pipeline – the more that the program is promoted in the community, the more interest has grown, and he expects to see more diverse enrollment in the upcoming year.

8. <u>Information Only-Board Chair's Report</u> – Chair Byron Brooks provided a report which recognized and thanked Dr. Stacy S. Klippenstein as the new CSN President, Dr. Jeffrey Alexander as the new TMCC President, and Dr. Amber Lopez Lasater as the NSU Officer in Charge; recognized and thanked the previous Board Chair Amy J. Carvalho and the amount of work and accomplishments during her tenure as Chair which included her participation in three executive hires, her leadership during the legislative session, and organizing Board service projects that benefit the NSHE institutions. On behalf of the Board, Vice Chair Goodman presented Regent Carvalho with a gift of appreciation to honor her time as Chair and all that she accomplished.

Regent Carvalho thanked the Board for the recognition and kind words. She recognized former Board Vice Chair Jeffrey S. Downs and shared her appreciation for their partnership.

8. <u>Information Only-Board Chair's Report</u> – *(continued)* 

Chair Brooks addressed the students of NSHE regarding the death of Charlie Kirk at Utah Valley University. He assured students their safety on the NSHE campuses is a priority regardless of individual political ideologies and personal beliefs, which should not make anyone a target of violence. Chair Brooks encouraged students to report anything they deem concerning to the appropriate campus resources and reiterated the NSHE institutions' commitment to the value of safe and respectful open debate.

- 9. <u>Approved-Consent Items</u> The Board approved the consent items except for Item 9d, Honorary Degree, UNR, which was considered separately.
  - 9a. <u>Approved-Minutes</u> The Board approved the following meeting minutes:
    - April 9, 2025, ad hoc Chancellor Search Committee meeting (*Ref. BOR-9a1*)
    - April 10, 2025, Board of Regents special meeting (Ref. BOR-9a2 on file in the Board Office)
    - April 24, 2025, Board of Regents special meeting (Ref. BOR-9a3 on file in the Board Office)
    - May 7, 2025, ad hoc TMCC President Search Committee meeting (Ref. BOR-9a4 on file in the Board Office)
    - May 8, 2025, Board of Regents special meeting (Ref. BOR-9a5 on file in the Board Office)
    - June 12-13, 2025, Board of Regents quarterly meeting (Ref. BOR-9a6 on file in the Board Office)
  - 9b. <u>Approved-Tenure Granted to Academic Faculty Upon Hire</u> The Board approved acceptance of the reports presented by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and the University of Nevada, Reno naming any individual to whom tenure upon hire was granted during the period of July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, and the reports presented by Nevada State University naming any individual to whom tenure upon hire was granted during the periods of July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, and July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, pursuant to the NSHE <u>Code</u> (Title 2, Chapter 3, Section 3.3.1(b2) and Title 2, Chapter 7, Section 7.3.1(b2)) (Ref. BOR-9b on file in the Board Office).
  - 9c. <u>Approved-Appointments, Task Force on Power-Based Violence at Institutions of Higher Education</u> The Board approved the appointments of Dr. Sarah Chamanara, UNLV, and Isabelle Hatch, UNR, to the Task Force on Power-based Violence at Institutions of Higher Education, pursuant to NRS 396.141(1) (Ref. BOR-9c on file in the Board Office).
  - 9e. <u>Approved-Acceptance of Gift, Keyboard Instruments, UNR</u> The Board approved acceptance of a double-manual harpsichord and a fortepiano as gifts to the UNR School of Music (*Ref. BOR-9e on file in the Board Office*).
  - 9f. <u>Approved-Procedures and Guidelines Manual Revision, Student Health Services/Insurance Fees, UNLV</u> The Board approved a correction to the *Procedures and Guidelines Manual (Chapter 7, Section 11)* concerning the

9. <u>Approved-Consent Items</u> – *(continued)* 

UNLV Comprehensive Medical Imaging fees for academic year 2025-2026 (Ref. BOR-9f on file in the Board Office).

9g. Approved-Tenth Amendment to Preliminary Affiliation Agreement, UNLV Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine and UMC – The Board approved the Tenth Amendment to Preliminary Affiliation Agreement between the UNLV Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine and University Medical Center of Southern Nevada (Ref. BOR-9g on file in the Board Office).

Regent Brown moved approval of the consent items except item 9d. Regent Del Carlo seconded. Motion carried. Regent Fernandez was absent.

(Consent item considered separately)

9d. <u>Approved-Honorary Degree, UNR</u> – The Board approved UNR to award an honorary doctorate degree to nominee Don Jensen (*Ref. BOR-9d on file in the Board Office*).

Regent Del Carlo recognized Don Jensen, a true Nevadan, and provided an overview of his life in Nevada and his generous contributions to UNR.

Regent Del Carlo moved approval of consent item 9d. Regent Brown seconded. Motion carried. Regent Fernandez was absent.

10. Approved-Campus for Hope Partnership and Property Exchange Agreement, CSN (Agenda Item 13) – College of Southern Nevada President Stacy S. Klippenstein, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs James McCoy, and Campus for Hope Chief Executive Officer Kim Jefferies provided an overview of the mission of Campus for Hope and the emerging partnership between the organizations. The Board approved the property Exchange Agreement between CSN and the Campus for Hope (Refs. BOR-13a and BOR-13b on file in the Board Office).

President Klippenstein congratulated his colleague Dr. Amber Donnelli on her appointment as the GBC President. In addition, on behalf of the CSN community, President Klippenstein offered condolences to the family of Dr. Mike Richards (former CSN President) on his passing. He offered introductory remarks for the Campus for Hope presentation.

Ms. Jeffries and Dr. McCoy provided a presentation which included: current data on the unhoused population in Clark County; background information on Campus for Hope – integration with existing homeless service providers, Campus for Hope client profiles, campus residential rooms, amenities and eligibility, and implementation timeline; wrap around services and partner opportunities; partnership and collaboration opportunities between CSN and Campus for Hope; overview of the request for Board approval regarding the Property Exchange Agreement including the current CSN modulars on the Campus for

# 10. Approved-Campus for Hope Partnership and Property Exchange Agreement, CSN (Agenda Item 13) – (continued)

Hope site and the new site for the modulars to be placed on the CSN Charleston Campus; and the new modulars to be purchased by Campus for Hope for CSN.

Vice Chair Goodman, Regents Boylan, Brager, Goicoechea, Arrascada, McGrath, and Dr. McCoy and Ms. Jeffries addressed and discussed the following concerns: the Campus for Hope model including the enrollment process for the unhoused individuals/families, including those suffering through drug addiction and the detox facility that Campus for Hope would have available; safety and security protocols for the CSN campus, Campus for Hope staff and the surrounding neighborhood; additional funding for UPD's assistance with security; financial literacy and management services; and location issues (Campus for Hope on Charleston Boulevard and Jones Boulevard) and the proximity to/overall impact on CSN.

Regent Brown and Regent Goicoechea shared their support for the proposal. Additionally, Regent Goicoechea requested to focus on whether the \$1 million for six modulars is a good deal.

Mr. Chris Nielsen, Special Counsel to the Board of Regents, cautioned the Board to focus the discussion on the Exchange Agreement.

In response to an inquiry from Regent Carvalho, Dr. McCoy confirmed that if the Exchange Agreement was not approved by the Board, CSN will have to find another avenue for moving the modulars, along with the funding for the move, and the \$1 million from Campus for Hope would be off the table.

Regent Goicoechea and Ms. Jeffries discussed how Campus for Hope applied to the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) for the project and was approved on January 15, 2025, as a qualified project. GOED will oversee the project. The local jurisdiction is the City of Las Vegas and there will be a shared services agreement with all the participating municipalities.

Chair Brooks and Mr. James Martines, Vice Chancellor and Chief General Counsel, discussed that the Board is not being asked to approve a partnership between CSN and Campus for Hope. The request is to approve a property Exchange Agreement and a \$1 million donation to CSN from Campus of Hope for CSN's modulars that currently sit on the land that has been leased to Campus for Hope by the State of Nevada.

Regent Boylan moved approval of the property Exchange Agreement between CSN and Campus for Hope. Regent Brown seconded.

Dr. McCoy clarified for Regent McGrath that the Campus for Hope project is not a CSN project. He further explained that if the Board does not approve the property Exchange Agreement, CSN will be unable to re-open the Early Childhood Education program for the families CSN serves in time for the Fall 2026 semester. If the Campus for Hope project

10. Approved-Campus for Hope Partnership and Property Exchange Agreement, CSN (Agenda Item 13) – (continued)

were not to be completed, it would not affect the property Exchange Agreement that is currently before the Board for consideration.

Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried. Chair Brooks and Regents Bautista, Boylan, Brager, Brown, Carvalho, Del Carlo, Downs, Goicoechea and McGrath voted yes. Vice Chair Goodman and Regent Arrascada voted no. Regent Fernandez was absent.

The meeting recessed at 2:34 p.m. and reconvened at 3:06 p.m. with all Regents present except Regent Fernandez.

11. <u>Information Only-NSHE Funding Adequacy and Equity Study (Agenda Item 10)</u> – Principal Analyst Jeremy Aguero from Applied Analysis presented a review of trends in higher education funding to provide a foundation for evaluating the adequacy of funding in Nevada (*Ref. BOR-10 on file in the Board Office*).

The presentation included: an executive summary; State funding comparison; tuition and fees comparison, institutional comparison; and the Funding Formula model.

Regent Del Carlo and Mr. Aguero discussed how the data was not presented to the Legislature as the data was still being collected during the most recent Session.

Vice Chair Goodman, Regent Brown and Mr. Aguero discussed the complexities of the necessity to raise tuition and fees for the NSHE institutions, the detrimental impact on students regarding barriers to access education by raising those costs, and NSHE leadership finding solutions as a united front that will benefit the students and System.

Chair Brooks stated that perhaps there is a way to secure additional funding from the State by meeting higher outcomes of student success.

12. <u>Information Only-NSHE Funding and Predictable Pricing Program (Agenda Item 11)</u> — Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton presented an overview of the funding of NSHE institutions and discussed potential adjustments to the Predictable Pricing Program (*Title 4, Chapter 17, Section 1.2*) in advance of the 2027-29 biennial budget cycle (*Ref. BOR-11 on file in the Board Office*).

The presentation included: AB568 one-time funding; overview of NSHE funding; benchmark funding comparisons, overview of fee policy – predictable pricing; discussion of possible adjustments to Predictable Pricing; and next steps.

Regent Downs asked if the fifteen percent fee requirement was eliminated, would that be beneficial or not to the institutions. Chief Financial Officer Viton offered that normalizing it at ten percent and allowing the registration fee to increase overtime as the dollar amount

12. <u>Information Only-NSHE Funding Adequacy and Equity Study (Agenda Item 11)</u> – *(continued)* 

of the current set-aside catches up to ten percent may be helpful. Instead of setting aside even more funds in new budgets, the institutions can continue to set aside what is coming out of the registration fee currently so that the campuses can maintain the programs they have already put in place around the current access loans.

Chief Financial Officer Viton clarified for Regent Arrascada that the Predictable Pricing Program addresses the registration fees and non-resident tuition that all students pay as part of the base registration.

13. <u>Information Only-Institutional Performance Metrics, GBC (Agenda Item 12)</u> – Great Basin College Interim President Amber Donnelli presented data and metrics on GBC's progress in achieving the strategic goals adopted by the Board of Regents. The metrics presented included those identified by the Board to ensure comparability and alignment with the NSHE Strategic Plan (*Ref. BOR-12 on file in the Board Office*).

Interim President Donnelli presented the GBC institutional performance metrics which included: when GBC was founded, the four rural campuses, data on fully online students (74 percent), the 75+ degree and certificate programs, and the #1 community college graduation rate in Nevada as presented by the 2024-25 IPEDS 4-year average rates; overall fall enrollment and fall enrollment by race/ethnicity; nursing program overview and data including enrollment, the 100 percent NCLEX pass rate, graduation rate; dual enrollment; undergraduate enrollment – dual credit enrollment vs. non-dual credit enrollment; annual enrollment distribution – Pell Grant and non-Pell Grant; correction center education; Fall to Fall persistence rates; Foundation annual scholarship awards; graduation rates and transfer-out rates; 150 percent graduation rate – performance gap for all other minority groups; continue education programs; IPEDS completer – students and awards; outcome measures – status eight years after entry; workforce development; MTC scholarship; indemand occupation awards; staffing overview; teacher education; and NWCCU accreditation status.

14. <u>Information Only-Public Comment</u> – Dylan Hinton provided public comment encouraging the Board to conduct an informational hearing on systemic discrimination across the NSHE.

Dr. Pete Martini provided public comment regarding Agenda Item 29 (Review of Post-Tenure Review Policy) stating that the System already has a robust mechanism for post-tenure review. He requested the Board consider whether there is a policy issue or an implementation issue.

Chair Brooks announced that Agenda Item 17 (Institutional Performance Metrics, WNC) will be heard next.

15. <u>Information Only-Institutional Performance Metrics, WNC (Agenda Item 17)</u> – Western Nevada College President J. Kyle Dalpe presented data and metrics on WNC's progress in achieving the strategic goals adopted by the Board of Regents. The metrics presented

15. <u>Information Only-Institutional Performance Metrics, WNC (Agenda Item 17)</u> – (continued)

include those identified by the Board to ensure comparability and alignment with the NSHE Strategic Plan (*Ref. BOR-17 on file in the Board Office*).

President Dalpe presented the WNC institutional performance metrics which included: 10-year fall enrollment; Fall '24 enrollment race/ethnic categories; annual enrollment distribution within Pell Grant and non-Pell Grant categories; 10-year dual credit enrollment; dual credit vs. non-dual credit enrollment; NSHE persistence rates; 150 percent graduation rates and transfer-out rates; comparing graduation rates: all students vs. IPEDS cohort; 150 percent graduation rates performance gap; number of students earning a degree or certificate; IPEDS outcome measures; in-demand occupation awards; NWCCU accreditation status; 2025 staffing overview; WNC Foundation FY25; prison program annual enrollment and awards; Fallon and Douglas campuses health sciences expansion impact (headcount); WNC Fernley expansion; deferred maintenance; non-credit enrollment by course type; and instructional modality.

The meeting recessed at 4:57 p.m. and reconvened on Friday, September 12, 2025, at 9:05 a.m. with all Regents present except Regent Fernandez.

16. <u>Information Only-Public Comment (Agenda Item 15)</u> – The following individuals expressed concerns regarding Agenda Item 26 (*Handbook* Revision, Professional Staff Collective Bargaining Regulations): Bradley Summerhill, Lars Jensen, Kyle Smith, Dan Hooper, Tonya Hayes, Rachelle Bassen, Helen Kidane, Victoria Peechatt, Russell James, Sheak King, Heather Reardon, Susie Martinez, Staci Walters, Shantal Marshall, Jim Matovina, Patrick Villa, Dr. Kinsey Wright, Doug Unger, Andrew Lavengood, Ted Johnson, Dr. Jinger Doe, Pete Martini and David Cooper.

Regent Fernandez entered the meeting.

Regarding Agenda Item 25 (Vacancy in the Office of President, NSU), the following individuals expressed appreciation for Board and System leadership's thoughtful conversation, listening and understanding of NSU's need for continuity during the transitional period; support for Dr. Amber Lopez Lasater as acting president; and a desire for a national search: Dr. David Cooper, Lahana Pearce, Jose Castillo, Stephanie Flores, Dr. El Hachemi Bouali, Dr. Pete Martini, and Lousia Bautista.

Dr. David Cooper cautioned the Board against political influences on faculty tenure (Agenda Item 29 - Review of Post-Tenure Review Policy).

The following individuals spoke in opposition to any additional student fees: Jose Castillo, Stephanie Flores and Louisa Bautista.

Chair Brooks expressed appreciation for the individuals participating in public comment and announced Agenda Item 26 (*Handbook* Revision, Professional Staff Collective Bargaining Regulations) will be heard next to allow those offering comments to hear the discussion.

17. Action Taken-Handbook Revision, Professional Staff Collective Bargaining Regulations (Agenda Item 26) – The Board took action to postpone consideration of the proposed Handbook revision concerning professional staff collective bargaining regulations to the October 17, 2025, special Board meeting, at which time either the same materials or revised materials agreed upon by the parties may be presented for consideration (Refs. BOR-26a and BOR-26b on file in the Board Office).

Pursuant to NRS 281A.420, Regent Downs disclosed his status as a WNC faculty member subject to collective bargaining and policies and stated he will abstain from voting on the matter.

Deputy General Counsel Carrie Parker noted the revisions clarify existing requirements and do not stop bargaining. Further, Chief General Counsel Martines explained that the goal is transparency for the Board and consistency across institutions, acknowledging previous "overkill" in appropriation language.

Chair Brooks, Vice Chair Goodman and Regents Boylan, Brager, Carvalho, Goicoechea, Del Carlo and Brown expressed discomfort with the proposed revisions, particularly with the lack of clarity and stakeholder involvement.

Vice Chair Goodman moved to postpone the item to the October 17, 2025, special meeting. Regent Del Carlo seconded.

Upon further discussion among Vice Chair Goodman, Regents Goicoechea, Del Carlo, Fernandez, and Chief General Counsel Martines, Regent Carvalho requested that the motion include the ability to change/update the policy proposal based on stakeholder input.

Vice Chair Goodman and Regent Del Carlo withdrew the motion and second.

Vice Chair Goodman moved to postpone the item to the October 17, 2025, special meeting with the ability to revise the item language and policy proposal based on stakeholder input. Regent Del Carlo seconded. Motion carried. Regent Downs abstained.

The meeting recessed at 10:43 a.m. and reconvened at 11:09 a.m. with all Regents present except Regents Brager and Brown.

18. <u>Information Only-Nevada FAFSA Challenge Winner (Agenda Item 16)</u> – Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Daniel Archer recognized Mineral County High School (MCHS) as the winner of the Nevada FAFSA Challenge, the inaugural Free Application for Federal Student Aid completion competition. A banner was presented to MCHS Principal Monica Keady. MCHS achieved the most improvement in FAFSA completion rates as compared to other participating Nevada high schools for the current FAFSA cycle. MCHS realized an increase of 53.1 percentage points over the prior year.

18. Information Only-Nevada FAFSA Challenge Winner (Agenda Item 16) – (continued)

Regent Brager entered the meeting.

Vice Chancellor Archer offered introductory remarks and congratulated Mineral County High School (MCHS) as the winner of the Nevada FAFSA Challenge.

MCHS Principal Monica Keady introduced Drew Schaar who thanked the Board for the opportunity to support rural Nevadans in pursuing postsecondary education. Additionally, Mineral County School District Superintendent Stephanie Keuhey expressed pride in her team's accomplishments and the honor of being the first recipients of this award.

Regent Brown entered the meeting.

19. <u>Information Only- Fiscal Update and Strategic Path Forward, CSN (Agenda Item 18)</u> — College of Southern Nevada President Stacy S. Klippenstein presented an overview of CSN's current financial position including a historical perspective of the factors that contributed to the present budget challenges and strategic options for sustainable planning (*Ref. BOR-18 on file in the Board Office*).

The presentation included: fiscal history overview; current fiscal strategy; future budget outlook; and steps forward.

Chair Brooks thanked President Klippenstein for the transparency of the presentation.

Regents McGrath and Arrascada and President Klippenstein discussed a budget timeline and where budget cuts would be focused.

Regent Boylan expressed his appreciation for President Klippenstein's work at CSN.

20. <u>Approved-2025-2027 Strategic Bridge Plan, CSN (Agenda Item 19)</u> – The Board approved the CSN 2025-2027 Strategic Bridge Plan (*Refs. BOR-19a and BOR-19b on file in the Board Office*).

President Klippenstein presented the CSN 2025-2027 Strategic Bridge Plan which included: an overview of the 2025-2027 Bridge Plan; strategic focus areas; the NSHE Strategic Plan 2025-2030; stakeholder engagement and four goals for the Bridge Plan: 1) student access and success; 2) student engagement; 3) performance and quality; and 4) workforce and community; and benchmarking and implementation of the Bridge Plan.

Regent Brown moved approval of the CSN 2025-2027 Strategic Bridge Plan. Regent Del Carlo seconded. Motion carried.

21. <u>Information Only-Student Fees Balance Report, UNLV (Agenda Item 20)</u> – University of Nevada, Las Vegas Interim President Chris Heavey presented an update on student fee balances including current balances by fee category, trends in revenue and expenditures, and progress toward aligning fee balances with Board of Regents policy (*Ref. BOR-20 on file in the Board Office*).

21. Information Only-Student Fees Balance Report, UNLV (Agenda Item 20) – (continued)

Regent Del Carlo questioned if a 40 percent carryover was high. Interim President Heavey discussed and clarified that a carryover of \$18 million was initially maintained due to uncertainty with federal financial aid but has largely been dispersed to students. The remaining carryover is in line with other institutions in the System.

Regent Arrascada asked for clarity on the ending carryover balance and emergency funding. Ms. Elise Bunkowski, UNLV Interim Vice President, Business Affairs/Chief Financial Officer, and Ms. Barb Roberts, UNLV Acting Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, explained the aid disbursement and the uses of emergency funding to avoid students' barriers to study. Chief Financial Officer Viton and Interim President Heavey confirmed that the carry-forward balance at the end of FY26 is anticipated to be below \$16 million as access fees have already been awarded.

Regent Del Carlo asked if there is consideration to reduce fees as enrollment is up. Interim President Heavey explained the review is on a fee-by-fee basis and noted that increased enrollment incurs increased costs.

Regent Boylan asked if international students were eligible for emergency funding and Ms. Roberts confirmed that they are.

22. <u>Information Only-Update on 42-acre Property, UNLV (Agenda Item 21)</u> – University of Nevada, Las Vegas Interim President Chris Heavey presented an update concerning approximately 42 acres of real property located at the northeast corner of Tropicana Avenue and Koval Lane in Clark County, Nevada. UNLV continues to pursue strategies to enhance near-term revenue and utility of the property, while also preparing for a future Request for Proposal process to explore long-term development opportunities that may generate revenue, expand use, and provide other potential benefits to the university (*Ref. BOR-21 on file in the Board Office*).

Interim President Heavey discussed preparation of a 2026 Request for Proposal (RFP) for a 100-year lease or potential sale, considering campus use but prioritizing other options, and acknowledged the airport expressing interest in discussion.

Regent Arrascada inquired about prior discussions with the Clark County Department of Aviation and asked Interim President Heavey to keep the Board updated on future discussions pertaining to the 42-acre property with the Department of Aviation.

Regent Goodman requested further stakeholder meetings and asked for an offline briefing on the advantages of a 100-year lease.

23. <u>Information Only-Global Campus Exploration – Incheon, South Korea, UNLV</u> – University of Nevada, Las Vegas Interim President Chris Heavey presented an update on UNLV's potential opportunity to establish a global branch campus in Incheon, South Korea. Interim President Heavey discussed the campus opportunities and challenges and give a brief overview of potential next steps (*Ref. BOR-23 on file in the Board Office*).

23. Information Only-Global Campus Exploration – Incheon, South Korea, UNLV – (continued)

President Heavey explained that UNLV's hospitality program was invited to apply to join the Incheon Global Campus, which provides capital costs for construction. UNLV will submit a 10-page proposal, and if approved will receive funding for a comprehensive feasibility study anticipated to be operational by 2030.

Regent Boylan and President Heavey discussed the opportunity as brand positive, revenue neutral/positive, with increased worldwide visibility for the hospitality program and potential pipeline for graduate students, while maintaining academic standards.

Regent Carvalho and President Heavey discussed tuition differentials to participate in the program.

Regents Del Carlo and Brown expressed encouragement in pursuing this opportunity.

24. <u>Information Only-Global Campus Exploration – Hainan Province, China, UNLV (Agenda Item 22)</u> – University of Nevada, Las Vegas Interim President Chris Heavey presented an update on UNLV's potential opportunity to establish a global branch campus in the Hainan Province, China. Interim President Heavey discussed the campus opportunities and challenges and provided a brief overview of potential next steps (*Ref. BOR-22 on file in the Board Office*).

President Heavey described this opportunity as a less structured global campus exploration in China in partnership with Las Vegas Sands who provided a six-figure donation for a feasibility study. The proposed location is on Hainan Island, a growing international free trade zone known as the "Hawaii of China."

Regent Boylan and President Heavey discussed admission standards, English as language of instruction, and the role of international student exchange.

25. Approved-Vacancy in the Office of President, NSU — The Board approved the recommendation of the Chancellor for the appointment of an acting president to lead Nevada State University for a period of up to 12 months while a search for a permanent president is conducted. The recommendation follows meetings held on September 3, 2025, with major constituencies of the institution, including the representatives of faculty and classified senates or their equivalents and student government, to receive their suggestions and input regarding the appointment of an acting or interim president (Title 2, Chapter 1, Section 1.5.5(d).

Regent Brown, Chancellor McNair and Chief General Counsel Martines discussed the difference between an acting appointment and an interim appointment. Further, Chief General Counsel Martines confirmed for Regent Downs that the <u>Code</u> does not allow for the appointment of a search-eligible acting president.

Regents Goicoechea and Del Carlo highlighted the ability of the Board to adjust as circumstances change.

25. Approved-Vacancy in the Office of President, NSU – (continued)

Regent Brager moved approval of the Chancellor's recommendation for the appointment of an acting president to lead Nevada State University for a period of up to 12 months while a search for a permanent president is conducted. Regent Downs seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting recessed at 12:48 p.m. and reconvened at 1:28 p.m. with all Regents present.

Approved-Code Amendments, Officers of the Nevada System of Higher Education (Agenda Item 24) — The Board of Regents approved amendments to the NSHE Code (Title 2, Chapter 1, Section 1.5.4) concerning the process for addressing a vacancy in the office of the Chancellor (Ref BOR-24a on file in the Board Office) and NSHE Code (Title 2, Chapter 1, Section 1.5.5) concerning the process for addressing a vacancy in the office of President (Ref. BOR-24b on file in the Board Office).

Pursuant to Title 2, Chapter 1, Section 1.3.3(a) of the NSHE <u>Code</u>, "[a]t least 30 calendar days before consideration by the Board, proposed amendments shall be circulated to the Chancellor, each System institution President, and each senate for review and comment." The policy proposals were circulated to the named stakeholder groups on August 8, 2025. Additional feedback received through circulation was incorporated into the proposals, which were then recirculated to the named stakeholder groups.

Regent Brown moved approval of the <u>Code</u> amendments as presented. Regent Bautista seconded. Motion carried.

Chair Brooks stated that Agenda Items 31-34 and 36 (Agenda Item 31, Workforce Committee; Agenda Item 32, Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee; Agenda Item 33, Health Sciences System Committee; Agenda Item 34, Security Committee; and Agenda Item 36, Business, Finance and Facilities Committee) would be taken together as one item.

Committee Chairs Brown, Goodman, Arrascada, Brager, Boylan and Carvalho provided an overview of the latest meeting and discussed upcoming work/focuses for their respective committees.

27. <u>Approved-Workforce Committee Report (Agenda Item 31)</u> – The Board accepted the Workforce Committee report and approved the Committee recommendations (Committee report on file in the Board Office).

## Information Item

The Workforce Committee met on June 25, 2025, and heard the following:

# 27. Approved-Workforce Committee Report (Agenda Item 31) – (continued)

 Assistant Vice Chancellor for Workforce Development and Community Colleges Natalie Brown briefed the Committee on the Constellation of Support initiative, alignment of this initiative with the greater credit for prior learning initiatives, as well as key project supports including the planned in-person NSHE wide CPL convening on October 10, 2025.

#### Action Items

The Board approved the following recommendations of the Workforce Committee:

- The minutes from the April 24, 2025, meeting. (Ref. WF-2 on file in the Board Office)
- Revisions to Board policy (*Title 4, Chapter 14, Sections 18, 20, and 21 and Title 4, Chapter 16, Section 20*) expanding the provisions of Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) in alignment with the 2025-31 NSHE Strategic Plan, Success by Design, as approved by the Board of Regents in January 2025 (*Refs. WF-4a and WF-4b on file in the Board Office*).
- 28. <u>Approved-Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee Report (Agenda Item 32)</u> The Board accepted the Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee report and approved the Committee recommendations (Committee report on file in the Board Office).

The Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee met on September 4, 2025, and heard the following:

#### <u>Information Items</u>

- Chair Susan Brager provided remarks for agenda item number four for the chair's report.
- Chief Internal Auditor Lauren Tripp provided general remarks regarding departmental updates and initiatives. Interim Chief Human Resources Officer Kelly Scherado provided general remarks regarding Title IX updates.

#### Action Items

The Board approved the following recommendations of the Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee:

- Minutes: The Committee considered for approval the June 12, 2025, meeting minutes (*Ref. AC-2a on file in the Board Office*).
- Follow-up Responses to Audit Reports: The Committee considered for approval acceptance of the follow-up responses to the following audit reports:
  - o Disability Resource Center, UNR (Ref. AC-2b on file in the Board Office).
  - Purchasing Card Program, NSHE-SCS (Ref. AC-2c on file in the Board Office).

- 28. <u>Approved-Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee Report (Agenda Item 32)</u> *(continued)* 
  - Audit Reports: The Committee considered for approval the following audit reports and institutional responses: (Ref. Audit Summary on file in the Board Office)
    - o Change in Leadership, GBC
    - o Special Course and Differential Program Fees, UNLV
  - Internal Audit Department Work Plan and Status Report: The Committee considered for approval the Internal Audit Work Plan for the six-month period ending December 31, 2025, and the Internal Audit Department Status Report for the six-month period ended June 30, 2025 (Ref. AC-6 on file in the Board Office).
- 29. <u>Approved-Health Sciences System Committee Report (Agenda Item 33)</u> The Board accepted the Health Sciences System Committee report and approved the Committee recommendation (Committee report on file in the Board Office).

The Health Sciences System Committee met on September 4, 2025, and heard the following:

### Information Items

- Dr. Amber Donnelli, GBC Interim President, and Dr. Staci Warnet, Dean of Health Sciences and Behavioral Health, highlighted key health sciences programs at GBC and their impact on serving rural Nevada (Ref. HSS-4 on file in the Board Office).
- Dr. James Mah, Dean of the UNLV School of Dental Medicine; Dr. Janice Glasper, Dean of the CSN Engelstad School of Health Sciences; Dr. James McCoy, CSN Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs; Clarissa Cota, CSN Vice President of Campus Operations and External Relations; and Lisa Bakke, CSN Vice President of Finance and Administration provided an update on the CSN and UNLV Dental Collaborative. The presentation included an overview of the progress toward increasing Nevadans' access to affordable, quality dental care and strengthening the dental workforce, including specific goals for collaboration that have been prioritized for implementation and a preview of next steps (Ref HSS-5 on file in the Board Office).
- Dr. Marcia Turner, Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences, provided an overview of strategic NSHE health sciences initiatives that are currently underway. Additionally, Dr. Turner shared an update on key bills enacted during the 2025 Nevada Legislative Session related to specific NSHE health sciences programs.

#### Action Item

The Board approved the following recommendation of the Health Sciences System Committee:

- 29. Approved-Health Sciences System Committee Report (Agenda Item 33) (continued)
  - Minutes from the March 6, 2025, meeting (Ref. HSS-2 on file in the Board Office)
- 30. <u>Approved-Security Committee Report (Agenda Item 34)</u> The Board accepted the Security Committee report and approved the Committee recommendation (Committee report on file in the Board Office).

The Security Committee meeting met on September 4, 2025, and heard the following:

#### **Information Items**

- Arnold Vasquez, Chief of Police, Southern Command, presented an update including activities, crime statistics, hiring and recruiting, grants, internal department highlights, and the Community Service Officer program expansion (*Ref. SEC-4 on file in the Board Office*).
- Eric James, Chief of Police, Northern Command, presented an update on statistics, partnerships, Human Exploitation and Trafficking (HEAT), victim services and advocacy, outreach and initiatives, organizational resilience highlights as well as internal department updates (Ref. SEC-5 on file in the Board Office).
- Thomas Dobbert, Chief Information Security Officer, System Computing Services, presented an update on NSHE cybersecurity matters, including tabletop exercises at CSN and WNC, the Gramm-Leach Bliley Act, the federal landscape related to cybersecurity matters and the EU AI Act. Mr. Dobbert also spoke about the recent state of Nevada cybersecurity incident.

#### Action Item

The Board approved the following recommendation of the Security Committee:

- The minutes from the March 6, 2025, meeting minutes. (Ref. SEC-2 on file in the Board Office)
- 31. <u>Approved-Business, Finance and Facilities Committee Report (Agenda Item 36)</u> The Board accepted the Business, Finance and Facilities Committee report approved the Committee recommendations (Committee report on file in the Board Office).

The Business, Finance and Facilities Committee met on September 11, 2025, and heard the following:

#### <u>Information Items</u>

• Fourth Quarter Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Fiscal Exceptions, Self-Supporting Budgets: Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton presented the Fourth Quarter Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Report of Fiscal Exceptions of Self-Supporting accounts (BFF-3 on file in the Board Office).

- 31. <u>Approved-Business, Finance and Facilities Committee Report (Agenda Item 36)</u> *(continued)* 
  - Fourth Quarter Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Athletics Financial Report, UNLV, UNR, CSN and TMCC: Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton presented the Fourth Quarter Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Athletics Financial Reports for UNLV, UNR, CSN and TMCC (BFF-4 on file in the Board Office).

#### Action Items

The Board approved the following recommendations of the Business, Finance and Facilities Committee:

- Minutes from the June 12, 2025, meeting (Ref. BFF-2a on file in the Board Office).
- Summary of Board of Regents Approved Issuance of Bonds in Fiscal Year 2024-2025: The Committee considered for approval acceptance of the report summarizing the issuance of University Revenue Bonds and Certificates of Participation for NSHE-wide projects (Ref. BFF-2b on file in the Board Office).
- Fourth Quarter Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget Transfers, State Supported or Self-Supporting Operating Budgets: The Committee considered for approval acceptance of the Fourth Quarter Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Report of Budget Transfers of State Supported or Self-Supporting Operating Budget Funds Between Functions (Ref. BFF-2c on file in the Board Office).
- Short-Term Ground Lease with Las Vegas Paving Corporation for a Portion of the 42-Acre Property, UNLV: The Committee considered for approval UNLV's request to enter into a short-term Ground Lease with Las Vegas Paving Corporation for approximately 7.20 acres of the UNLV-owned 42-acre property generally located near the southeast corner of Tropicana Avenue and Kelch Drive in Clark County, Nevada, and authorizing the Chancellor to negotiate, finalize, approve and execute the short-term Ground Lease, along with any ancillary agreements or instruments required to implement and manage the Gound Lease, including, but not limited to, any amendments to or extension of the Ground Lease. All aforementioned agreements and instruments shall be reviewed and approved by the NSHE Chief General Counsel or NSHE Special Real Estate Counsel to implement the terms and conditions required to finalize, execute, and administer the Ground Lease (Ref. BFF-5 on file in the Board Office).
- Allocation and Use of Capital Improvement Fee Funds, UNLV: The Committee considered for approval authorizing UNLV to expend up to \$4 million in Capital Improvement Fee (CIF) funds to support planning and design efforts for a new academic building for the Lee Business School (Ref. BFF-6 on file in the Board Office).
- Sixth Amendment to Interlocal Medical Office Lease with UMC of Southern Nevada, UNLV: The Committee considered for approval the Sixth Amendment to Interlocal Medical Office Lease with University Medical Center of Southern Nevada for property located at 1524 Pinto Lane in Clark County, Nevada (APN 139-33-305-023), and authorizing the Chancellor to

31. <u>Approved-Business, Finance and Facilities Committee Report (Agenda Item 36)</u> – *(continued)* 

execute the Sixth Amendment to Interlocal Medical Office Lease, any documents necessary to exercise the two additional six-month extension options, and any ancillary documents deemed necessary and appropriate by the NSHE Chief General Counsel or NSHE Special Real Estate Counsel to carry out the terms and conditions of the Lease and the Lease Amendments (*Ref. BFF-7 on file in the Board Office*).

- Resolution, Pre-Approval to Purchase Real Property in Reno, Nevada, UNR: The Committee considered for approval a Resolution for the purchase of real property located at 711 Evans Avenue (APN 007-223-06) and 628 Lake Street (APN 007-362-12) in Reno, Nevada, at a purchase price not to exceed the appraised value of each parcel, and authorizing the Chancellor to execute the purchase agreements, review and approve environmental condition reports, and sign any non-material amendments or ancillary documents required to finalize the purchases. All such documents shall be reviewed and approved by the NSHE Chief General Counsel or NSHE Special Real Estate Counsel to ensure they align with the terms approved by the Board of Regents (Ref. BFF-8 on file in the Board Office).
- Third Amended Lease Agreement with the Davidson Academy of Nevada, UNR: The Committee considered for approval the Third Amended Lease Agreement between UNR and the Davidson Academy of Nevada, and authorizing the Chancellor to execute the Third Amended Lease Agreement, any non-material or corrective amendments, and any other ancillary documents required to implement the Agreement. All such documents shall be reviewed and approved by the NSHE Chief General Counsel or NSHE Special Real Estate Counsel to ensure they align with the terms approved by the Board of Regents (Ref. BFF-9 on file in the Board Office).

Regent McGrath moved approval of Agenda Items 31-34 and 36 (Agenda Item 31, Workforce Committee; Agenda Item 32, Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee; Agenda Item 33, Health Sciences System Committee; Agenda Item 34, Security Committee; and Agenda Item 36, Business, Finance and Facilities Committee). Regent Arrascada seconded. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 35 (Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee Report) was considered separately.

32. <u>Approved-Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee Report (Agenda Item 35)</u>

– The Board accepted the Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee report and approved the Committee recommendations.

32. <u>Approved-Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee Report (Agenda Item 35)</u>
– (continued)

Pursuant to NRS 281A.420, Regent Carvalho disclosed her status as a current student in the UNLV Higher Education Ph.D. program and, as such, will abstain from voting on ARSA-5 within Agenda Item 35 (Program Change, Ph.D. Education Policy, Organizational Leadership and Higher Education, UNLV).

## Information Item

The Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee met on September 11, 2025, and heard the following:

• Fostering Success Initiative Manager Laura Obrist presented on the NSHE Foster Youth Fee Waiver adopted by the Board of Regents in 2018. The fee waiver policy permits qualifying NSHE undergraduate students to register for eligible courses without being charged registration or certain laboratory fees. The report provided an overview of the fee waiver, information on the requirements of the fee waiver, number of recipients and total fees waived, recipient demographics, and student success metrics. Additionally, a high-level review of the NSHE Fostering Success Initiative grant-funded activities and accomplishments for the last year was provided (Refs. ARSA-10a and ARSA-10b on file in the Board Office).

# **Action Items**

The Board approved the following recommendations of the Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee:

- The minutes from the June 12, 2025, meeting (Ref. ARSA-2a on file in the Board Office).
- Elimination of the Associate of Science (A.S.) in Dental Hygiene at CSN. The degree was transitioned to an entry-level Bachelor of Science Dental Hygiene in Fall 2024. The last cohort of A.S. Dental Hygiene students graduated in May 2024 (*Ref. ARSA-2b on file in the Board Office*).
- Organizational Unit Eliminations, UNLV:
  - o Applied Geophysics Center: The Applied Geophysics Center has no current or pending activity and a lack of faculty for continuing the Center. The Center does not offer courses (Ref. ARSA-3a on file in the Board Office).
  - O Center for Gaming Research: The core activities of the Center for Gaming Research more closely align with Special Collections and Archives. The Center does not conduct research but focuses on collection development (Ref. ARSA-3b on file in the Board Office).
  - Center for Mechanical and Environmental Systems Technology: The Center for Mechanical and Environmental Systems Technology has no current or pending activity and a lack of faculty for continuing the

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- Center. The Center does not offer courses (Ref. ARSA-3c on file in the Board Office).
- Energy Materials Interaction Technology of Nevada/Pulsed Power Labs: The Energy Materials Interaction Technology of Nevada/Pulsed Power Labs has no current or pending activity and a lack of faculty for continuing the Center. The Center does not offer courses (Ref. ARSA-3d on file in the Board Office).
- High Pressure Science and Engineering Center: The High Pressure Science and Engineering Center has no current or pending activity and a lack of faculty for continuing the Center. The Center does not offer courses (Ref. ARSA-3e on file in the Board Office).
- Establishment of a Center for Water Intelligence and Community Health within the College of Sciences at UNLV. The goals of the Center include implementing advanced detection systems for chemicals and microbes in water and pioneering Las Vegas's first wastewater-to-drinking water system. The Center will also provide students opportunities to advance their knowledge in microbial analysis, mass spectrometry and membrane technology, preparing them for high-value roles in water, energy, and health sectors (Ref. ARSA-4 on file in the Board Office).
- Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Multilingual Education at UNLV designed with an emphasis on developing and extending knowledge around theories and equitable practices that support preschool through 12th grade language and literacy development for multilingual learners. Program graduates will be prepared for research and teaching careers in higher education, as policy leaders in school district and state leadership positions, and language specialists in various settings (Ref. ARSA-6 on file in the Board Office).
- Bachelor of Music (B.M.) in Composition at UNR designed to prepare students to be well-equipped to enter the music industry or pursue advanced degrees in music composition, performance, music production, or education. The curriculum's emphasis on practical composition, performance, and professional development ensures that students are prepared for a wide range of career opportunities in the music industry (Ref. ARSA-7 on file in the Board Office).
- Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Political Science at UNR that will provide students with advanced training in political analysis and quantitative methods. The program will combine coursework in statistics, calculus, and research design with a comprehensive study of political institutions and behavior. The program prepares graduates for professional positions in policy research, program evaluation, campaign analytics, and political consulting (Ref. ARSA-8 on file in the Board Office).
- Associate of Arts (A.A.) in Secondary Education at GBC designed to streamline the transition from an associate-level degree to a four-year education program. The proposed degree will provide students with a well-defined route to secondary education teaching, whether at GBC or another NSHE institution. Additionally, the degree allows the dual enrollment

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student who completes the Certificate of Achievement in General Studies to easily transition to the A.A. (Ref. ARSA-9 on file in the Board Office).

Regent Brown moved approval of the Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee Report except ARSA-5 (Program Change, Ph.D. Education Policy, Organizational Leadership and Higher Education, UNLV). Regent Arrascada seconded. Motion carried.

(ARSA-5 considered separately)

• Program change to expand the current Ph.D. in Higher Education at UNLV to a Ph.D. in Education Policy, Organizational Leadership and Higher Education. This expansion includes PreK through 12 education policy and an organizational leadership emphasis. Curricular changes will include reorganization of existing courses and the addition of new courses (Ref. ARSA-5 on file in the Board Office).

Regent Brown moved approval of ARSA-5 (Program Change, Ph.D. Education Policy, Organizational Leadership and Higher Education, UNLV). Regent Arrascada seconded. Motion carried. Regent Carvalho abstained.

33. Approved-Handbook Revision, Use of the Capital Improvement Fee (Agenda Item 27) — The Board approved a revision to Board policy (Title 4, Chapter 10, Section 12) reducing the required Board of Regents notification period from 30 days to 7 days for Capital Improvement Fee (CIF) expenditures of more than \$100,000 but not exceeding \$1,200,000 or the actual balance of the fund, whichever is less, and adding language that provides for the use of CIF funds in the event of an emergency with after-the-fact reporting to the Board. The revision also includes the deletion of unnecessary/redundant language referencing the NSHE Procedures and Guidelines Manual general requirements for contracting, which are applicable to all contracts regardless of the source of funds. (Ref. BOR-27 on file in the Board Office)

Chief Financial Officer Viton presented amendments to the policy on using capital improvement fees. Revisions included a reduced notice period (from 30 days to 7 days for certain uses below \$1.2 million, aligning with signature delegation policy); emergency authorization allowing campuses to use funds for emergencies (e.g. human safety/facilities risks) with post-use reporting.

Regent Arrascada moved approval of the policy revision. Regent Del Carlo seconded. Motion carried.

34. Approved-Nomination, Nevada State Board of Education (Agenda Item 28) – Pursuant to NRS 385.021(2)(c), the Board approved the nomination of Regent Amy J. Carvalho for consideration and appointment by the Governor to the Nevada State Board of Education as a non-voting member representing the Nevada System of Higher Education. The Board of Education meets at least bimonthly and is responsible for developing the vision and policy goals for student achievement in the pre-K to 12 education space in Nevada.

Vice Chair Goodman moved approval to nominate Regent Amy J. Carvalho for the consideration and appointment by the Governor to the Nevada State Board of Education as a non-voting member representing the Nevada System of Higher Education. Regent Brager seconded. Motion carried.

35. <u>Information Only-Review of Post-Tenure Review Policy (Agenda Item 29)</u> – Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Daniel Archer outlined a plan to review NSHE's post-tenure review policy (*Title 2, Chapter 5, Sections 5.13 and 5.16*) and related or cross-referenced provisions as necessary. An update, including any potential findings and/or recommendations, will be provided to the Board of Regents by Spring 2026 (*Ref. BOR-29 on file in the Board Office*).

Vice Chancellor Archer addressed the request to examine NSHE's post-tenure review policy. He clarified that the review is not a reflection on faculty or academic freedom, but to ensure effective tools and processes for accountability when issues arise, given an increase in student concerns. He stated NSHE staff will review policy language, consult with faculty senate chairs, student leaders, and campus administrators. The intent is to return by Spring 2026 with findings and recommendations, but potentially earlier by December 2025 for initial feedback from presidents.

Chair Brooks, Vice Chair Goodman, Regent McGrath and Vice Chancellor Archer discussed whether this is an institutional or System-wide issue and the timeline for reporting back to the Board.

36. <u>Information Only-Standardization and Uniformity in Budgeting and Reporting Practices</u> (Agenda Item 30) – Chancellor Matt McNair, Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton, and Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Daniel Archer presented an overview of current efforts to improve standardization and consistency in budgeting and reporting practices (*Ref. BOR-30 on file in the Board Office*).

Chief Financial Officer Viton discussed efforts to standardize budgeting and reporting across NSHE institutions. He highlighted the goals are to enhance consistency, transparency, and data collection, while acknowledging the need for flexibility across different-sized institutions. He further noted progress and challenges in the process, improvements in fee balance reports, athletic reports, and continuous efforts toward standardized reporting; however, systems are not always capable of centrally producing reports, which require individual compilation and validation. Additionally, the timeline

36. <u>Information Only-Standardization and Uniformity in Budgeting and Reporting Practices</u>
(Agenda Item 30) – (continued)

requires a continuous improvement process, with the goal of addressing concerns each reporting cycle.

Chair Brooks, Regents Brown, Del Carlo, and Arrascada, and Chief Financial Officer Viton emphasized the importance of uniform, congruent reports to avoid confusion and ensure accountability.

Regent Brown left the meeting.

37. <u>Information Only-New Business</u> – Regent Downs requested a review of the policy on registration fees (*Title 4, Chapter 17*) and for the Board to consider removing the 10-15 percent assessment on fees to alleviate student costs.

Vice Chair Goodman left the meeting.

Chair Brooks thanked the GBC team, SCS and Board staff for their work coordinating the meeting.

38. <u>Information Only-Public Comment</u> – Sue Wainscot and Dr. Pete Martini thanked the Board for postponing Agenda Item 26 (*Handbook* Revision, Professional Staff Collective Bargaining Regulations) and said they look forward to robust conversations on this topic.

The meeting adjourned at 2:16 p.m.

Prepared by: Winter M.N. Lipson

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and

Klaas H. Van Der Wey

Special Assistant & Coordinator to the Board of Regents

Submitted for approval by: Keri D. Nikolajewski

Chief of Staff to the Board of Regents