

Minutes were approved at the September 3-4, 2026 Quarterly Meeting

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

System Administration, Las Vegas
4300 South Maryland Parkway, Board Room
Thursday, June 4, 2026

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

Members Present: Ms. Stephanie Goodman, Chair
Mrs. Susan Brager, Vice Chair
Mrs. Carol Del Carlo
Mr. Carlos D. Fernandez

Members Absent: Ms. Jennifer J. McGrath

Other Regents Present: Mr. Aaron Bautista
Mr. Patrick Boylan
Ms. Heather Brown
Ms. Amy J Carvalho
Mr. Pete Goicoechea

Others Present: Mr. Matt McNair, Chancellor
Mr. Jason Frierson, Vice Chancellor of Government Relations
Mr. Brody Leiser, Vice Chancellor of Budget and Finance/Chief
Financial Officer
Ms. Keri D. Nikolajewski, Chief of Staff to the Board of Regents
Mr. Chris Nielsen, Special Counsel to the Board of Regents
Dr. Stacy S. Klippenstein, President, CSN
Dr. Kumud Acharya, President, DRI
Dr. Amber Donelli, President, GBC
Dr. Amber Lopez Lasater, Acting President, NSU
Dr. Chris Heavey, Interim President, UNLV

Chair Stephanie Goodman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all members present except Regent McGrath. Chair Goodman provided the Land Acknowledgement and Vice Chair Brager provided the Pledge of Allegiance

1. Information Only-Public Comment – None.

2. Approved-Minutes – The Committee recommended approval of the February 26, 2026, meeting minutes (*Ref. HSS-2 on file in the Board Office*).

Vice Chair Brager moved approval of the February 26, 2026, meeting minutes. Regent Fernandez seconded. Motion carried. Regent McGrath was absent.

3. Information Only-Chair's Report – Chair Stephanie Goodman highlighted ongoing improvement efforts with ECG, the consultant working with the UNLV Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine, and noted the upcoming presentation on the UNLV School of Dental Medicine audit. She also welcomed the presentation on UNR Health and expressed optimism about its continued progress.
4. Information Only-University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine Report – Dr. Paul J. Hauptman, Dean of the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine, provided a report on the University of Nevada, Reno Medical School (*Ref. HSS-4 on file in the Board Office*).

The report included an update on medical education, accreditation, graduate medical education, research, community outreach, finances, and strategic initiatives. He reported that the Class of 2026 included 93% Nevada residents, an equal distribution of men and women, and a 100% residency match rate. Dean Hauptman shared information about the graduating class of 2030 and planned curriculum updates.

Dean Hauptman discussed continued accreditation with ACGME, including an upcoming site visit in Fall 2027. He also shared developments on the new Obstetrics and Gynecology residency program and delved into the School of Medicine's 2024-2029 Strategic Plan, "GME: Five by Thirty." This plan includes General Surgery Residency, Pulmonary and Critical Care Fellowship, Family Medicine Rural Track Residency, and Cardiology or Hematology/Oncology Fellowship.

Dean Hauptman reported that the School of Medicine's research enterprise continues to grow, particularly in the Departments of Pharmacology, Physiology & Cell Biology, and Microbiology & Immunology. He reported \$32 million in research expenditures in fiscal year 2025 and noted that 74 grant proposals totaling \$69 million have been submitted in fiscal year 2026 and are pending approval. He also highlighted community outreach efforts, including the Sanford Center for Aging, student health programs, Office of Statewide Initiatives, and the school's commitment to expanding rural healthcare access and developing Nevada's healthcare workforce.

Dean Hauptman stated that the Medical School's finances remain stable and highlighted philanthropic efforts, including approximately \$11 million raised in 2025. He also addressed the UNR School of Medicine and Renown Health affiliation, including alignment of strategic plans, expansion of clinical research, and efforts to strengthen Nevada's academic health system. He shared future academic expansions including the Medical Laboratory Science Program, Doctor of Audiology Program, Speech-Language

4. Information Only-University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine Report- *(continued)*

Pathology Assistant Certificate as well as Cancer Research Center and goals of developing of a Nevada medical journal.

Vice Chair Brager asked about anesthesiology workforce needs and autism diagnosis services. Dean Hauptman acknowledged that anesthesiology is one of many physician shortage areas and is a training program that may come up within the next 10 years, and that the School of Medicine is doing diagnostics and treatment of young children with autism.

Chair Goodman asked about the role of Renown Health in retaining medical graduates and strengthening Nevada's healthcare workforce. Dean Hauptman responded to questions regarding residency program prioritization, accreditation efforts, and collaborative initiatives between UNR Med and Renown Health.

Regent Boylan questioned why anesthesiology is not a priority for the School of Medicine and was interested in how long programs take to develop. Dean Hauptman explained the process of prioritizing and creating new programs for the School of Medicine, the recent priorities of Pediatrics and OBGYN and expressed commitment to building GME Programs.

Regent Fernandez asked about GME expansion, in-state physician retention, and rural health training opportunities. Dean Hauptman explained that the State and Renown are working diligently with the school's residency programs for new hires and retaining students in the state.

5. Information Only-Nevada Behavioral Health Workforce – Dr. Michelle Paul, Assistant Vice President of Mental and Behavioral Health at UNLV, and the Workday Endowed Executive Director of the UNLV PRACTICE, provided an overview of SB353, legislation that passed in the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature, which enables potential enhancements in reimbursement for mental and behavioral health services provided at University-based clinics (*Ref. HSS-5 on file in the Board Office*).

Dr. Paul discussed the significance of Senate Bill 353 for Nevada's behavioral health workforce. The legislation focuses on leveraging Medicaid financing principles to strengthen behavioral health access and workforce sustainability through partnerships with NSHE institutions.

Dr. Paul highlighted Nevada's significant behavioral health workforce shortage, particularly in underserved and rural communities. She explained that SB 353 establishes a Medicaid provider type for university-operated behavioral health training clinics and creates an enhanced cost-based reimbursement structure. She noted that the legislation is pending federal approval through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and emphasized its potential to position Nevada as a national leader in behavioral health workforce development.

5. Information Only-Nevada Behavioral Health Workforce - (continued)

Dr. Paul highlighted behavioral health training clinics across NSHE institutions, including services provided through UNLV Practice, UNR clinics, and Nevada State University programs. She discussed opportunities to expand access to care for Medicaid recipients, children, rural communities, and other underserved populations while increasing clinical training opportunities for future behavioral health professionals.

Dr. Paul emphasized the need for a coordinated statewide approach to behavioral health services, citing barriers to accessing care, workforce shortages, and the importance of collaboration among NSHE institutions to improve service delivery and strengthen the behavioral health workforce.

Chair Goodman expressed support for the initiative and emphasized the importance of expanding behavioral health services, including addressing areas such as gambling addiction.

Vice Chair Brager asked about their next steps for the legislative session. She discussed the urgent need for improved access to behavioral health providers, insurance participation, and a unified statewide approach to addressing workforce shortages. Dr. Paul responded that collaboration among behavioral health programs and institutions is needed and highlighted efforts to unify behavioral health initiatives across NSHE. She also discussed future workforce development efforts, including programs designed to recruit and retain Nevada-trained behavioral health professionals.

6. Information Only-Rural Health Transformation Grant Program – Dr. Marcia Turner, NSHE Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences, provided an update on NSHE's Rural Health Transformation Coordinating Council and an overview of NSHE institutions' efforts to develop and submit proposals through the Nevada Health Authority's Nevada Rural Transformation (RHT) funding opportunities, to help advance rural healthcare and health professional workforce development in Nevada, and other related matters (*Ref. HSS-6 on file in the Board Office*).

Dr. Turner explained that the federally funded initiative is intended to improve healthcare delivery and access in rural communities through innovative models of care, workforce development, technology, and infrastructure investments. She noted that Nevada received approximately \$180 million in first-year funding, administered by the Nevada Health Authority, and explained the competitive grant application process, and reiterated that NSHE programs would likely be receiving a smaller percentage of available funding.

Dr. Turner shared that NSHE established a Rural Health Transformation Coordinating Council to facilitate collaboration among its institutions and coordinate grant opportunities. She stated that approximately 37 grant applications had been submitted across multiple funding categories, including facility improvements, workforce development, educational programs, telehealth, remote patient monitoring, and mobile health services. She also

6. Information Only- Rural Health Transformation Grant Program- *(continued)*

highlighted collaborative grant-writing efforts, including assistance provided by Great Basin College to rural community partners.

Dr. Turner discussed current and upcoming funding opportunities focused on rural healthcare delivery, mental health, maternal health, chronic disease management, workforce expansion, and technology-based solutions to improve access to care. She indicated that additional information on grant awards and project outcomes would be presented at a future meeting.

Chair Goodman thanked Dr. Turner for the presentation and expressed appreciation for the opportunities the program provides to strengthen healthcare services in Nevada's rural communities.

7. Information Only-New Business – None.

8. Information Only-Public Comment – None.

The meeting adjourned at 10.24 a.m.

Prepared by: Catherine Riley
Special Assistant and Coordinator to the Board of Regents

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