Minutes are intended to note: (a) the date, time and place of the meeting; (b) those members of the public body who were present and those who were absent; and (c) the substance of all matters proposed, discussed and/or action was taken on. Minutes are not intended to be a verbatim report of a meeting. An audio recording of the meeting is available for inspection by any member of the public interested in a verbatim report of the meeting. These minutes are not final until approved by the Board of Regents at the June 2025 meeting.

BOARD OF REGENTS NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Nevada State University Rogers Student Center, Ballroom 1300 Nevada State Drive, Henderson

> Thursday, March 6, 2025 Friday, March 7, 2025

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: Mrs. Amy J. Carvalho, Chair

Dr. Jeffrey S. Downs, Vice Chair

Mr. Joseph C. Arrascada

Mr. Aaron Bautista

Mr. Patrick J. Boylan

Mrs. Susan Brager

Mr. Byron Brooks

Ms. Heather Brown

Mrs. Carol Del Carlo

Mr. Carlos D. Fernandez

Mr. Pete Goicoechea

Ms. Stephanie Goodman

Ms. Jennifer J. McGrath

Others Present: Ms. Patricia Charlton, Interim Chancellor

Dr. Daniel Archer, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student

Affairs

Dr. Natalie Brown, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Workforce

Development and Community Colleges

Ms. Elizabeth Callahan, Public Information Officer

Ms. Lynda P. King, Senior Associate General Counsel

Mr. James J. Martines, Vice Chancellor and Chief General Counsel

Mr. Christopher G. Nielsen, Special Counsel to the Board of Regents

Ms. Keri D. Nikolajewski, Chief of Staff to the Board of Regents

Mr. Alejandro Rodriguez, Director of Government Relations

Ms. Lauren Tripp, Chief Internal Auditor

Dr. Marcia Turner, Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences

Mr. Chris Viton, Vice Chancellor, Budget and Finance and Chief

Financial Officer

Others Present: (Continued)

Mr. Tillery Williams, Director of Community Engagement, Equity and Inclusion

Mr. Michael B. Wixom, Special Real Property Counsel

Dr. William L. Kibler, Acting President, CSN

Dr. Kumud Acharya, President, DRI

Dr. Amber Donnelli, Interim President, GBC Dr. DeRionne Pollard, President, NSU

Dr. Karin M. Hilgersom, President, TMCC Dr. Chris Heavey, Officer in Charge, UNLV

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

Faculty senate chairs in attendance included the following individuals: Ms. Valerie Conner, CSN (Chair, Council of Faculty Senate Chairs); Dr. Maureen McCarthy, DRI; Mr. David Sexton, GBC; Dr. David Cooper, NSU; Mr. Glenn Heath, SA; Dr. Jinger Doe, TMCC; Dr. Deborah Arteaga, UNLV; Dr. Aaron Hill, UNR; and Mr. Martin Schmidt, WNC. Student body presidents in attendance included the following individuals: Ms. Janeth Vences-Balvas, ASCSN President, CSN; Ms. Jennifer Rodriguez Serrano, SGA President, GBC; Mr. Kevin Osorio Hernández, NSSA President, NSU (Chair, Nevada Student Alliance); Ms. Lisha Allison, SGA President, TMCC; Mr. Allister Dias, CSUN President, UNLV; Ms. Teresa Marie, GPSA President, UNLV; Mr. Dawson Deal, ASUN President, UNR; Mr. Miguel Sison, ASUNSOM President, UNR; Ms. Tania Akter, GSA President, UNR; and Ms. Catalina Wilson, ASWN President, WNC. Classified council chair in attendance included the following individual: Ms. Stacy Wallace, NSU, ex-officio.

Land Acknowledgment

Before beginning, we take a moment to recognize that here in Nevada we stand on the land of the Wa She Shu – Washoe; Numu – Northern Paiute; Nuwe – Western Shoshone; and Nuwu – Southern Paiute. We take a moment to recognize and honor their stewardship that continues into today. With this recognition, we state an intention to rightfully include their voice and respect them as the 27 sovereign tribal nations of Nevada.

Chair Carvalho called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. with all members present. The City of Henderson Police Department's Honor Guard presented the colors, and NSU education major Chantel Brown sang the national anthem. Regent Del Carlo led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Carvalho welcomed newly appointed Regent Jennifer McGrath. Chair Carvalho read the Land Acknowledgement.

1. <u>Information Only – Introductions and Campus Updates</u>

Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC) President Karin M. Hilgersom provided the following TMCC highlights and updates:

- Congratulated the TMCC Regent award winners and tenure recipients.
- TMCC spring enrollments show a significant increase in headcount.
- TMCC received word from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) that it fulfilled its obligation related to TMCC's one recommendation for the college.
- TMCC continues to implement the credit for prior learning portfolio-based system and looks forward to a report at the end of the academic year.

(TMCC – Continued)

TMCC President Hilgersom stated that over the past nine years, she has presented many updates to the Board of Regents, always trying to be accurate and honest. Only on occasion has she needed to share elements of the college that were not going well. With this last update, she was compelled to share a not-so-positive update. TMCC began receiving letters in late January from the new executive administration at the federal level with a certain tone and word choices that have been difficult to lead through. The letters have been unjustifiably accusatory, largely centering around some amazing work of over two decades centered around diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). Work that this Board has promoted and encouraged. It is not unique for a community college to create structures so that every student can succeed regardless of their race, background, and value system. Community colleges take pride in creating a comfortable and diverse community, and at the same time, leveling the playing field for those students who are disadvantaged through no choice of their own. She continues to be proud of those in the TMCC community and because of that she felt compelled to convene a federal response team that has been meeting weekly to discuss the direction of the letters and many questions related to compliance and other emerging questions related to whether there is something better beyond DEI that TMCC can aspire to or create something new that can reach every student at TMCC. In closing, TMCC President Hilgersom stated it had been a pleasure to come before the Board and share good news for nine years. She is grateful for the Board's support of the new theater and looks forward to seeking approval for a firefighting training and rescue facility in April. She knows that after her departure, there will continue to be good news at TMCC because, ultimately, TMCC is an amazing college with amazing employees and fantastic students.

Great Basin College Interim President Amber Donnelli provided the following GBC highlights and updates:

- Karissa Sena-Fadenrecht was named a 2025 New Century Transfer Pathway Scholar and will be honored at the President's Breakfast during the American Association of Community Colleges Convention in Nashville, Tennessee.
- GBC Machining and Manufacturing students in Pahrump competed in the Project MFG Competition, placing in the top 16 out of 60 teams nationwide, earning a spot in the regional semi-finals, which will be featured on YouTube's *Clash of the Trades*.
- GBC SkillsUSA competitors are preparing for the state competition in Reno, with hopes of advancing to the national competition in Atlanta, Georgia, in June. These students represent the technical excellence and workforce readiness that GBC strives to develop.
- GBC's Theater Group is preparing to open its production of Chicago next week, representing months of dedication, creativity, and collaboration, and a great opportunity to experience the vibrant arts community at GBC.
- GBC launched the first cohort of the Cardio-Respiratory Care Science program, developed in partnership with Renown Health, providing students with hands-on clinical experiences and placement opportunities in medical centers across Northern Nevada, helping to address the region's growing demand for skilled healthcare professionals.

(GBC – Continued)

- GBC remains the only institution in Nevada offering Gifted and Talented courses for state licensure endorsement and has also introduced Social-Emotional Academic Development (SEAD) courses, addressing a critical need in K-12 education.
- GBC's spring enrollment continues to grow, with FTE up 6.8 percent from last year, which is a result of collective efforts in recruitment, student support, and program development.
- With major support from GOED's Workforce Innovations for a New Nevada Fund, the GBC-NORCAT MST training center opened in January. GBC is working to expand training opportunities and will present initiatives at the Nevada Mining Association meeting in March.
- The Diesel Technology program is expanding to Winnemucca, while a night Diesel program is being launched in Elko to provide greater flexibility for students.
- The Electrical and Instrumentation training programs in Winnemucca are transitioning to a hybrid model to offer more accessible learning options.
- The MET/MINE Skills certificate program is seeing significant growth this spring, demonstrating the rising interest in this high-demand field.
- GBC launched the Geologic Technician Skills Certificate.
- A DETR grant has provided important support for 54 Early Childhood Education students to earn up to four skills certificates, strengthening the workforce in this critical sector.
- Through a FIPSE grant for Native American Healthcare Training, GBC will be delivering CNA and Medical Assisting/Phlebotomy/EKG certification education directly to Native American tribal communities, helping to address critical healthcare workforce shortages.
- A USDA Grant for Classroom Technology Upgrades is funding the transition of (IAV) classrooms from PolyCom to Zoom-based technology, providing a more cost-effective and flexible learning experience for remote and hybrid students.
- The GBC Foundation was selected as the charity partner for the Women Empowering Women event in Elko. The Foundation continues to provide critical support for scholarships, faculty development, and student opportunities.

GBC Interim President Donnelli expressed her gratitude to GBC faculty, staff, and students who continue to make GBC an outstanding institution. Their commitment to GBC's mission of "Transforming Lives Through Education" is what drives GBC's success.

Western Nevada College (WNC) President J. Kyle Dalpe provided the following WNC highlights and updates:

- Congratulated all the faculty members, particularly those at WNC who are up for tenure and WNC's Regent Scholar Award recipient.
- WNC spring enrollment has increased by 5 percent. However, because enrollment management is not only getting students in the door, WNC continues to look for new strategies to support students to the finish line.

(WNC – Continued)

- WNC created a new family-oriented learning space at the library to support parents who can bring their children while they use resources.
- WNC hosted the local premiere of To Dye For, a documentary that focuses on color dyes used in food. He thanked WNC Psychology Professor Rebecca Bevans for her research and awareness work on the documentary, and for sharing her personal story related to harmful food dyes.
- He congratulated WNC Professor Stephanie Arrigotti for the recent Celebrate the Magic 35th anniversary musical theater showcase, featuring several shorts from past shows, including Phantom of the Opera, Mama Mia, Mary Poppins, and more.
- WNC Professor Thomas Herring hosted more than 100 people at the Jack C. Davis Observatory on March 1 for a star party, photographing the Starlink satellite train and viewing Venus, Jupiter, and Mars.
- WNC Geology Professor Winnie Kortemeier presented her research on Lake Tahoe, determining this lake in our backyard to be North America's oldest permanent freshwater lake.
- WNC Construction Management students helped senior living residents at Solista Senior Living with repair projects in their apartments.
- WNC has become a CDL testing site on both the Carson City and Fallon campuses in partnership with the DMV, meaning students can test for licensure at WNC campuses and not a state DMV office.
- Rural day is March 24 at the Legislature, with WNC and GBC sharing all kinds of information and stories related to their work serving rural nevada.
- WNC has completed its new space, the Link: community, career, and employer center. The center will provide programming to connect students to employers and vice versa. Thanks to the William N. Pennington Foundation, NV Energy and The Redfield Foundation for funding the project.

College of Southern Nevada (CSN) Acting President William L. Kibler provided the following WNC highlights and updates:

- After more than a year, CSN signed a new contract with Hospital Corporation of America, opening up four additional large hospitals in the Las Vegas area as clinical sites for clinical experiences and rotations for CSN nursing students and other health-related professions.
- CSN has a new collaborative agreement between the UNLV School of Dental Medicine and the CSN Dental Program to enhance opportunities for students and staff in both programs.
- The Westside Education & Training Center building continues on schedule to complete construction this summer, which will bring basic education and workforce development programs to the significantly underserved historic West side.
- CSN will hire a permanent Vice President for Finance Administration and a Chief Human Resources Officer, which will fulfill one of CSN Acting President Kibler's goals to eliminate all long-term interim positions at CSN.

(CSN – Continued)

- CSN held a small retirement ceremony for Frank Woodbeck, who will come back and work part-time until CSN finds his successor.
- This coming academic year CSN we will launch Nevada's first ever Funeral Services degree, which has been eight years in the making and will provide hands on training in all aspects of the funeral industry.
- CSN day in Carson City is on March the 27. Two buses filled with CSN students
 will travel through the night to Carson City to spend the day flying the CSN flag
 throughout the capital and the legislative building to advocate for CSN priorities.
- In anticipation of the appointment of a new CSN President, CSN began its comprehensive transition and onboarding process by appointing a presidential transition team. The team will work to make sure CSN does everything to ensure the success of its new president.

Desert Research Institute (DRI) President Kumud Acharya stated that recent Executive Orders have resulted in many questions and concerns across DRI. Because all DRI faculty support their research through grants, federal funding of research is critical to DRI scientists. He remains optimistic that DRI can weather the uncertainty of this time and continue the important work that it does for the state and the nation. DRI President Acharya provided the following DRI highlights and updates:

- Dr. Joe McConnell, Dr. Nathan Chellman, and Dr. Sophia Wensman, recently published a study in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* which found lead pollution likely caused widespread IQ declines in Ancient Rome, using Arctic ice core records to reconstruct historic atmospheric lead pollution in Ancient Rome and link exposure to cognitive declines. This research earned significant media interest with coverage in the *New York Times, The Guardian, The Wall Street Journal, Newsweek, Popular Science, Smithsonian Magazine*, and many more.
- Dr. Patrick Hurbain, postdoctoral researcher and environmental epidemiologist, published a study in *Environmental Science & Technology*, a nationwide assessment of estimated cancer risk from airborne toxics shows that risk is concentrated in urban communities, those with lower incomes, and those with higher proportions of racial minorities.
- DRI and UNR announced the findings from a Reno-Sparks heat mapping project. The summer 2024 data collection effort provides community members, legislators, and scientists with detailed maps of the region's urban heat island. The project found that in the mid-afternoon 3-4 p.m. window, the hottest time of day, parts of our community were more than 20°F warmer than others, although much of this range was linked to differences in elevation, vegetation, and manmade surfaces also play a major role.
- Dr. Christine Albano co-authored a new study with researchers at UCLA, which examines how a warming climate is creating an atmosphere that is more prone to extreme weather. This "hydroclimate whiplash" is evident in California's recent weather, with winters filled with repeated atmospheric river storms driving the plant growth that the dry summers then parched, providing plentiful fuel for explosive wildfires.

(DRI – Continued)

- Dr. Erick Robinson co-authored a new study that provides insight into North America's Indigenous communities before European contact. Published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (PNAS), the research identified the age of archaeological artifacts from across the continent by measuring the decay rate of a radioactive isotope of carbon.
- DRI published a new semi-annual report highlighting some of its latest research. The cover story features science on how warming in the Colorado River's mountain headwaters is contributing to the river's decline.
- This year, DRI launched Curiosity Lab by DRI as a new statewide event series bringing live science storytelling to Southern and Northern Nevada. DRI held its first event in Reno to a nearly sold-out crowd, and is excited for the first Las Vegas event which will be held on Wednesday, March 12, titled *Roots of Wonder: Following Curiosity into the Natural World* and will feature DRI's Dr. Sean McKenna, UNLV's Dr. Jarret Keene, and musician and photographer Sonia Barcelona.

University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) Officer in Charge Chris Heavey provided the following UNLV highlights and updates:

- Thanked President Whitfield for his dedicated leadership, always showing up to work with an extremely positive attitude, focusing on student success, and working hard to advance the campus with many things that will have a lasting legacy including the Financial Literacy and Wellness Center, which was just approved.
- UNLV is building a new FMRI facility, which will add important research for UNLV's brain health and neuroscience programs. It's a piece of equipment that will put UNLV on the cutting edge of capacity in that research area.
- UNLV launched its new Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience, which is a very popular area of study.
- Coach Barry Odom left UNLV after an incredible season and bowl appearance.
 UNLV welcomed Coach Dan Mullen, who comes to UNLV with 13 seasons in the SEC, including eleven bowl appearances.
- UNLV Women's Basketball had an extraordinary 4-peat of Mountain West title this season and now is opening up the Mountain West Conference as the number one seed.
- UNLV Men's Swimming and Diving had a 5-peat in its competitive WAC conference.
- The UNLV Rebel Girls won two national titles in the hip-hop game day category.
- UNLV Fine Arts programs are sending a group to France to perform in a music festival, a group to Mexico to perform some collaborative art projects, and a dance team to New York.
- UNLV Fine Arts is also recognized by the band U2 that gave a \$300,000 donation to support their efforts.
- UNLV broke ground on the new children's childcare center, which will add needed capacity in that space.

(UNLV – Continued)

• UNLV entered the semester with its highest ever spring enrollment and tied its highest ever fall-to-spring retention.

University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) President Brian Sandoval provided the following UNR highlights and updates:

- Provided special acknowledgement to the distinguished individuals receiving honorary degrees for their tremendous contributions.
- Recognize those who will achieve tenure, which is an incredible milestone in their academic professional careers.
- Welcomed Claudia Aguayo as the University's General Counsel.
- The University has again been designated as a "Research 1: Very High Research Activity" by the American Council on Education and the Carnegie Foundation.
- The University's research & development expenditures have reached the highest ever reported of \$194.1 million to the National Science Foundation.
- UNR submitted its new Request for Proposal (RFP) jointly with the state to offer 30+ acres at the north end of the Reno campus for the new Veterans Administration Hospital. If chosen, it would be transformative not only for Veterans but for UNR's students, faculty, and staff.
- In the fall, the University contracted with Lightcast, a leading firm in economic impact analysis, to provide an economic impact study, and the findings were encouraging:
 - O The University contributed \$2.2 billion to Nevada's economy, equivalent to 1 percent of the state's total gross state product (gsp) and surpassing one-third of the entire arts, entertainment, and recreation industry.
 - O The University's economic activity supported 23,063 jobs, meaning 1 in every 94 jobs in Nevada is tied to the University and its students.
 - O The University generates more tax revenue than it receives, with taxpayers earning \$1.80 in cumulative value for every public dollar invested in the University.
 - O A University of Nevada bachelor's degree boosts annual earnings by \$31,800 compared to a high school diploma in Nevada.
 - O The University's research spending added \$164.3 million to the Nevada economy, supporting 1,763 jobs.
 - O Former UNR students currently employed in Nevada contributed \$1.5 billion in added income in FY 2022-23.
 - O This analysis reaffirms the University's significant contribution to Nevada's economy, demonstrating its positive impact on business and the strong return on investments for students, taxpayers, and society.
- In May, UNR will have nearly 2,900 students walk across the quad as they celebrate their graduation.

Nevada State University (NSU) President DeRionne Pollard provided the following NSU highlights and updates:

- Welcomed everyone to Nevada State University.
- Welcomed Regents Bautista, Fernandez, and McGrath to campus.
- Acknowledged and thanked Officer in Charge Heavey for his dedication during a transitional period,
- Acknowledged Dr. Karin Hilgersom, as Cornell West said of bell hooks, "You are a friend of mine," and will be truly missed.
- Thanked Dr. Kibler for being such a wonderful colleague.
- Thanked the NSU team and the Board Office for putting in many hours planning and leading up to today's meeting.
- NSU's Strategic Planning Committee is meeting and laying a strong foundation for the work of the year ahead. The next step will be gaining input from across the campus community to continue guiding efforts. Last week the leadership team went on a bus tour of North Las Vegas to engage beyond just the campus and deepen its understanding of where its students are coming from and the pipeline that gets them to Nevada State.
- NSU is exploring an opportunity to partner with the North Las Vegas Library District in the fall to offer two undergraduate courses at the Alexander Library branch, a perfect example of creating partnerships that allow NSU to think outside the box to better serve its students.
- NSU announced the creation of our Student Transition and Retention, or STAR, Unit. This STAR model is grounded in evidence-based practices for supporting holistic student success and will take effect May 1. The new unit will absorb many of the student success programming, such as our summer bridge cohorts and peer mentoring, to make sure more students receive the support they need to be successful and achieve their goal of obtaining a college degree while advancing operational alignment and fiscal sustainability.
- NSU continues to seek private donations that will bolster the approved student athletics fee_to assist with efforts to launch an athletic program.
- During the State of the University address, she announced a \$50,000 gift from the Nevada State University Foundation and a \$100,000 donation from the Las Vegas Raiders to support Women's Flag Football, followed up with the Vegas Golden Knights gifting \$50,000.
- NSU is fortunate to have State Senator (and former regent) Shelly Cruz-Crawford helping advance a bill that will create a Nevada State license plate that will provide another revenue stream for the athletics program as well as basic needs items for students and faculty.
- Congratulated the incredible faculty members being brought forward for tenure and commending them for their efforts.

(NSU – Continued)

Accepted the recommendations for the Governance Task Force. It is clear that NSU
continues to mature as an institution and that there is important work to be done
around constructing a governance model that fits the institution. The Task Force
has agreed to adopt a common definition of shared governance, which is the joint
responsibility of faculty, staff, administration, students, and the governing board to
govern the institution.

NSU President Pollard stated that over the next two days, they are tasked with engaging with a variety of topics and issues and while they may have varying opinions and viewpoints, it was her hope that they can all approach these conversations in a way that keeps the focus on creating the best institutions of higher education for the students.

2. <u>Information Only – Institutional Student and Faculty Presentations</u> – NSU President Pollard introduced Alena Manjuck and Hon-Vu Q. Duong, faculty presenters, whose presentation focused on the ongoing efforts for no-cost and low-cost textbook courses at NSU.

Alena Manjuck, Outreach and Engagement Librarian, has served as the Outreach & Engagement Librarian at NSU since 2019. She holds dual BAs in English and Art from Lafayette College and an MS in Library Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Ms. Manjuck was selected as the inaugural recipient of the 2024 SILS Rising Star Alumni Award from UNC's School of Information and Library Science. This distinction recognizes alumni who have demonstrated exceptional growth in their profession and achieved early success in the fields of librarianship and information science.

Hon-Vu Q. Duong, MD, Distinguished Lecturer of Neurosciences; Anatomy & Physiology graduated from Pennsylvania State University. Dr. Duong completed his ophthalmology residency at Howard University Hospital and his fellowship at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology. He began teaching at NSU in 2005 where he used his medical knowledge and professional life experience to make his courses interesting, practical, and applicable. He has published in textbooks and peer-reviewed journals. He was the recipient of the 2021 Teaching Excellence Award. In 2022, he was conferred Senior Fellow status by the Higher Education Academy.

Vice Chair Downs asked Ms. Manjuck if she finds some students prefer a physical book, with her responding that there are options to print out the material if students do choose.

Regent Brown asked where conversion grants come from and how they are administered. Ms. Manjuck explained they do offer grant programs, such as the one that Dr. Duong participated in, to support instructors in taking on the extra workload. They are happy to offer the incentive and thank the Provost Office for sponsoring.

3. Information Only – Public Comment

The following individuals provided in-person public comment in support of Agenda Items 10c (Tenure) and 36 (Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee; 2025 Regents' Awards):

- Laura Naumann
- Jim New

The following individual provided in-person public comment in support of Agenda Item 10c (*Tenure*):

Jim New

The following individual provided written public comment in support of Claytee D. White's honorary doctorate degree nomination in Agenda Item 10f (Honorary Degrees, UNLV):

• Iesha Jackson (Ref. Jackson.Iesha03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individual provided written public comment in support of Claytee D. White's Distinguished Nevadan Award nomination in Agenda Item 11 (Distinguished Nevadan Award):

• Iesha Jackson (Ref. Jackson.Iesha03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individual provided written public comment requesting Clark County Department of Aviation's consideration as a partner to UNLV in developing the very important and last remaining vacant property on the UNLV campus in Agenda Item 13 (Purpose Statement, 42-Acre Property Located at the Northeast Corner of Tropicana Avenue and Koval Lane, Clark County, Nevada, UNLV):

• Rosemary Vassiliadis (Ref. Vassiliadis.Rosemary03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individual provided in-person public comment noting that many faculty opposed the proposed Title 2, Chapter 6, Section 6.13.2 change because it removes transparency; however, if there was a choice to have a private or public hearing it would be supported in Agenda Item 26 (Code Amendments, Policy of the Board of Regents, Decision on Appeal; Stage 5 Appeals and Sanctions; and Procedures Available when Sexual Harassment is Alleged):

• Doug Unger

The following individuals provided in-person or written public comment in support of Collective Bargaining Election, NSU in Agenda Item 40 (Collective Bargaining Election, NSU):

- Amy Cavanaugh (Ref. Cavanaugh. Amy 03.25 on file in the Board Office.)
- Matthew Hoffman (Ref. Hoffman.Matthew03.25 on file in the Board Office.)
- Laura Naumann
- Cheryl Perna (Ref. Perna. Cheryl03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individual provided written public comment voicing abuse and harassment concerns at WNC:

• Jayden Stevens (Ref. Stevens. Jayden 03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individuals provided written public comment voicing concerns with the current CSN Collective Bargaining Agreement negotiations:

- Robert Manis (Ref. Manis.Robert03.25 on file in the Board Office.)
- Gracie McDonough (Ref. McDonough.Gracie03.25 on file in the Board Office.)
- Brian Merrill (Ref. Merrill.Brian03.25 on file in the Board Office.)
- Smita Rao (Ref. Rao. Smita 03.25 on file in the Board Office.)
- Glynda White (Ref. White.Glynda03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individuals provided written public comment concerned with removing NSU DEI programs and urging the Board to work alongside the NSU community to protect and uphold the DEI mission, initiatives, and programs that have defined the institution:

- Anjelica Benitez (Ref. Benitez. Anjelica 03.25 on file in the Board Office.)
- Maria Franco (Ref. Franco.Maria03.25 on file in the Board Office.)
- Lilian Gonzalez (Ref. Gonzalez.Lilian03.25 on file in the Board Office.)
- Giselle Gradilla (Ref. Gradilla. Giselle 03.25 on file in the Board Office.)
- Gina Parham (Ref. Parham. Gina 03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individuals provided written or in-person public comment listing NFA's budget priorities, including the restoration of retiree health care benefits and the authorization of collective bargaining for NSHE professional employees:

- Kent Ervin (Ref. Ervin.Kent03.25 on file in the Board Office.)
- Doug Unger

The following individual provided in-person public comment, thanking UNLV President Whitfield for his service to UNLV and NSHE:

Deborah Arteaga

The following individual provided in-person public comment, acknowledging the federal climate and asking the Board to take a firm and unwavering stance in defense of science research that drives discovery and innovation:

• Laura Naumann

The following individual provided in-person public comment, acknowledging the federal climate and asking the Board to remain vigilant in resisting unprecedented attacks on the institutions and the people the Board is charged with protecting:

• Jim New

4. <u>Information Only – Regents' Welcome, Introductions and Reports</u>

Regent Brown stated that a workforce gap analysis study will be coming out that will streamline the process and offer credit for prior learning. As the state's workforce pipeline,

4. <u>Information Only – Regents' Welcome, Introductions and Reports – (Continued)</u>

NSHE is going to break down barriers and make it equitable to attend any of the campuses with any pre-existing potential credit sources. She provided an update on the CSN President Search, which has four finalists. Campus visits, a committee meeting to recommend a candidate, and the Board meeting to finalize a decision will be held next week. Regent Brown noted she asked the Student Body Presidents to provide high-level points from their institutions, and she shared those highlights.

Regent McGrath thanked Chair Carvalho, Vice Chair Downs, fellow Regents, Presidents, NSHE staff, and many others for the warm welcome that she has received. She also thanked Regent Brager for nominating Lois Tarkanian for the Distinguished Nevadan award. It is an honor to step into her shoes. Her impact on education and the community is remarkable.

Regent Del Carlo stated she and others attended the ACCT Legislative Summit in Washington, D.C. As the Chair-elect of the organization, she stated they spent their time at the Summit listening to lawyers to learn how to navigate through some of the federal changes. As Chair-elect, she is in charge of the Policy and Advocacy Committee, and the first meeting had over 600 people attend the Zoom meeting. She participated in a webinar with the Chronicle of Higher Education. She recently attended the CSN convocation and then drove to town hall meetings in Ely, Elko, and Winnemucca to listen to community members. She welcomed Regent McGrath. Regent Del Carlo stated that April is Community College Month.

Regent Goodman welcomed Regent McGrath. She noted that there is a lot of uncertainty, and she understands why. When the Board says it wants to protect the students, it also wants to protect the students from ever-growing debt. She will do her best to help navigate and build a better future for students and future students.

5. <u>Information Only – Chair of the Nevada Student Alliance Report</u> – Chair of the Nevada Student Alliance (NSA) and NSU NSSA President Kevin Osorio Hernández stated that, as this is his final quarterly meeting, he wanted to take an opportunity to recognize the phenomenal leadership of his fellow student body presidents across Nevada. He thanked Regents Brown, Fernandez, and Goicoechea for their fruitful discussions with the Nevada Student Alliance.

NSA Chair Osorio Hernández provided the following updates:

NSU Nevada State Student Alliance (NSSA):

- Has renewed its focus on community engagement, partnering with organizations such as Baby's Bounty, The Just One Project, and reading to elementary students.
- Working with executive leadership to support its undocumented population, building on a Resolution passed last year.
- Is tracking legislation and providing testimony on healthcare-related issues, including speech-language pathology and nursing, while aligning legislative priorities with the NSA.

5. <u>Information Only – Chair of the Nevada Student Alliance Report</u> – (Continued)

NSSA – (Continued)

- Joined the annual leadership bus tour, which was a valuable and cathartic experience in preparing for Nevada State University's strategic plan.
- Working on a bill for higher education that includes key provisions on open education resources, food insecurity measures, along with other provisions.

UNLV Consolidated Students of UNLV (CSUN):

- Committed to supporting students through DEI initiatives and resource expansion.
- Advocated at the Nevada Legislature for gun violence prevention and textbook access.
- Working with administration to improve transparency in fee usage.

UNLV Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA):

- Visited Carson City to advocate for graduate student priorities.
- From April 6-12, will celebrate National Graduate Student Appreciation Week with special events, including discounted dining and a Wind Orchestra night for students and families.
- The annual research forum will showcase graduate research, with top presentations earning GPSA scholarships.

UNR Graduate Student Association (GSA):

- Enhancing career support through partnerships with the Career Center and Graduate School, offering monthly professional development workshops.
- Spring Awards application is open, with \$50,000 allocated across 11 categories, including a popular travel grant with 150 approvals.
- Upcoming events include the Spring Social and GSA Council elections, with voting open until March 21.

UNR Associated Students of the University of Nevada (ASUN):

- The Department of IDEA celebrated Black History Month with events like the Black Cultural Festival and Fashion Show.
- In partnership with the ACLU of Nevada, hosted a panel on immigration rights.
- The Pack Internship Grant Program is expanding to offer paid summer internships through the Nevada Career Studio.
- The Government Affairs team is tracking key legislation and engaging students in the process.
- Elections for ASUN leadership take place next week.

Associated Students of the College of Southern Nevada (ASCSN):

- The Senate continues to work on bringing constitutional rights information for students. The Senate urges NSHE's guidance for institutions in order to understand the dos and don'ts for these types of information sessions.
- Events are still planned for all three campuses this semester, such as legal aid informational sessions, financial guidance sessions, and an end-of-year gala.

5. <u>Information Only – Chair of the Nevada Student Alliance Report</u> – (Continued)

Student Government Association of Great Basin College (SGA):

- SGA completed its elections, filling most positions except for two in Ely and one online. The focus is now on ensuring smooth transitions.
- Monthly events celebrating student engagement and diversity are being hosted across campuses, including a Women's Empowerment Night at the Elko campus.
- Working on amendments to its constitution and exploring ways to serve students better statewide.

Associated Students of Western Nevada (ASWN):

- Kicked off the semester with Welcome Back Week and a blood drive.
- Elections for the 2025/2026 year are underway.
- Recent events include "Palentine's Day" and a visit to Pleasant Valley Elementary.
- Upcoming events include a Saint Patrick's Day celebration, a rural day at the legislature, and a Global Gaming Event.
- Partnering for an Alcohol Awareness event.
- Preparing for the accreditation visit.
- Heritage month celebrations are planned for March through May.

NSA Chair Osorio Hernández stated that student leaders are not only dedicated but are also leading with conviction, thoughtfulness, and action. Their work is shaping the future of NSHE institutions, and it has been an honor to serve alongside them.

NSA Chair Osorio Hernández stated that serving as NSA Chair has been one of the greatest honors of his time in student government. He is grateful to his fellow student body presidents for their trust and to the students at Nevada State University for electing and reelecting him to serve as their advocate. Together, they have worked to encourage civic engagement in this critical election year, urged the Board to uphold its commitment to diversity, advocated for the integrity of the IDEA Committee, fought for the most vulnerable students, and pushed for careful deliberation on student fees. This work has been about the students they represent and the future they hope to build.

As he and many of his fellow student presidents prepare to graduate, he wanted to close his time as Chair the same way he began in Reno – by reaffirming their shared responsibility to celebrate culture, belonging, and excellence within NSHE. Across the nation, they are witnessing an undeniable shift – one that seeks to rewrite history, dismantle essential support systems, and make students question whether they truly belong in spaces that should have always been theirs. This is not some distant or abstract issue; it is happening in real time, in classrooms, in state legislatures, and in decision-making spaces just like this one. When students are being told – subtly or overtly – that their struggles are exaggerated, their identities are up for debate, or their futures negotiable, we must ask ourselves: What kind of leadership will we choose? After all, leadership, at its core, is about showing up, especially for those who cannot always advocate for themselves. It is about making the choice, day after day, to stand in service to others, even when it is difficult, even when the voices calling for change are uncomfortable to hear.

5. <u>Information Only – Chair of the Nevada Student Alliance Report</u> – (Continued)

NSA Chair Osorio Hernández stated that as he steps into the next phase of his journey, he knows that his rent will always be due through stewardship, advocacy, and a lifelong commitment to his community. And yet, even in the face of these challenges, there is joy. Joy in students who, despite uncertainty, continue to believe in the possibility of something better. Joy in the traditions, the cultures, and the perspectives that make the institutions not just places of learning, but places of belonging. Joy in knowing that while policies may shift, the will of those who are willing to fight for what is right does not. And in that, there is hope. As he prepares to leave this role, he leaves the Board with one question: When the history of this moment is written, when future students look back at the decisions made in rooms like this one, what will they see? His hope is that they will see leaders who do not hesitate when it matters most.

6. <u>Information Only – NSHE Classified Council Report</u> – NSHE Sergeant at Arms and NSU Classified Council Chair Stacy Wallace reported that the NSHE Classified Council selected Scottie Lockrem of TMCC for the 2025 Regents' Outstanding Classified Award. The Council met with Interim Chancellor Charlton to discuss collective concerns regarding the upcoming legislative session, transparency, and unified efforts across NSHE. The Council and Interim Chancellor Charlton agreed to make public comments regarding potential changes to the health insurance plans by the Public Employees Benefit Program (PEBP). They also discussed policy implementation and changes. The Council looks forward to future discussions with the Chancellor to strengthen ideals.

The Council worked with individual institutions to provide a unified front against the changes being presented by PEBP and encouraged constituents to express their concerns about removing or changing plans without member participation. The Council is grateful to all who participated and shared their stories with PEBP.

As institutions are closely following the Legislative session, they are encouraging constituents to participate in any events and information sessions that are being held to be better informed and more actively engaged during this critical time.

The Council will continue to look to the Board and Chancellor for guidance on specific changes to policies or procedures.

7. <u>Information Only – Chair of the Council of Faculty Senate Chairs Report</u> – Chair of the Council of Faculty Senate Chairs and CSN Faculty Senate Chair Valerie Conner provided an overview of Faculty Senates across NSHE Institutions, stating they are vital to university and college governance, ensuring faculty interests are represented in decision-making. It shapes policies on academics, curriculum, faculty welfare, and institutional goals, while collaborating with administrators, students, and other campus groups to address key issues. Faculty Senate Chairs represent over 10,000 faculty members, serving as the primary body for faculty governance. They facilitate communication between faculty, administration, NSHE, and the Board, ensuring faculty input is considered in decision-making. This includes policies on academic standards, grading, faculty hiring, and strategic planning, while ensuring compliance with NSHE bylaws to support a strong academic environment.

7. <u>Information Only – Chair of the Faculty Senate Chairs Report</u> – (Continued)

The NSHE Council of Faculty Senate Chairs is essential in representing faculty across NSHE. It serves as the primary communication link between the Chancellor and the Board, advocating for faculty interests at the highest levels of decision-making. By bringing together all Faculty Senate Chairs from across the NSHE, the Council promotes democratic governance and faculty participation.

Institutional Faculty Senates:

Desert Research Institute

 Represents faculty, research staff, postdoctoral researchers, and graduate students, collaborating with senior leadership to advocate for faculty interests at NSHE meetings. It addresses concerns related to resource distribution and support for grant-funded faculty through executive boards and committees.

Great Basin College

- Plays a pivotal role in shaping institutional policies, ensuring that faculty expertise is reflected in decisions that benefit both students and the broader community. Notable achievements include:
 - o Promoting shared governance, fostering improved collaboration across the institution.
 - o Conducting a Salary Equity Study, saving over \$100,000 in consultant fees while ensuring compliance with NSHE guidelines.
 - o Assisting in the recruitment of competent leadership for key administrative positions, highlighting the Faculty Senate's significant influence on institutional governance.

Truckee Meadows Community College

- Represents all faculty members, ensuring involvement in policy formation, curriculum development, and faculty evaluation.
- Through standing committees, monthly Senate meetings, and executive board discussions, faculty concerns are addressed.
- Senate leaders maintain regular communication with the administration through meetings with the President, Vice President of Academic Affairs, and other stakeholders, promoting shared governance and aligning institutional strategies with faculty and student needs.

Nevada State University

- NSU welcomes the Board to campus, excited for the upcoming collaboration.
- Working through a backlog of policies after implementing its first institutional policy last semester.
- As the institution grows, the Senate is exploring ways to best represent both academic and administrative faculty and ensure that structures are aligned with the institution's maturation.
- NSU is celebrating its largest cohort of faculty up for tenure and promotion in the university's history.

University of Nevada, Reno

- The Senate is deeply involved in university governance, focusing on:
 - Addressing changes in federally funded research through collaborations with the Vice President of Research and Innovation.

7. <u>Information Only – Chair of the Faculty Senate Chairs Report</u> – (Continued)

UNR – (Continued)

- Conducting surveys on the administrative faculty experience to improve software and IT services.
- o Implementing new student experience questionnaires to enhance instructional effectiveness.
- Preparing for the completion of the John Tulloch Business Building to improve learning spaces.

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

- The Senate Chair represents over 4,100 full-time and part-time faculty members, advocating for shared governance and faculty concerns.
- The Chair leads committees, sets meeting agendas, and engages with university administration. Key activities include:
 - o Regular meetings with the Chancellor, President, Provost, and other administrative officials.
 - o Participation in NSHE search and award committees.
 - o Advocacy for employee health benefits, successfully maintaining existing insurance options for state employees.
 - o The Faculty Senate at UNLV plays an essential role in policy development, faculty representation, and institutional decision-making, ensuring that faculty interests are aligned with the university's mission and goals.

Western Nevada College

- Recently, WNC faculty have been actively involved in significant academic and community initiatives:
 - o Research and Public Engagement: Dr. Winnie Kortemeier, Professor of Geosciences, conducted groundbreaking research that established Lake Tahoe as North America's oldest permanent freshwater lake, receiving international attention and presenting a public lecture on the topic.
 - Theatrical Milestone: The Western Nevada Musical Theatre Company, led by faculty member Stephanie Arrigotti, celebrated its 35th anniversary with a performance titled "Celebrate the Magic," showcasing favorite moments from past productions.
 - Nursing Job Fair and Faculty Excellence: WNC's National Student Nurses Association hosted a Nursing Job Fair. Faculty member Kathryn Cocking played a crucial role in preparing students for the event, conducting mock interviews and helping with resume development.

Chair Valerie Conner stated institutional Faculty Senates are vital to governance, policy development, and faculty advocacy. Through active participation in decision-making, collaboration with administration, and engagement in strategic initiatives, Faculty Senates ensure that faculty voices are heard, contributing to the continued growth and advancement of higher education in Nevada.

8. <u>Information Only – Chancellor's Report</u> – Interim Chancellor Patricia Charlton and Interim GBC President Donnelli celebrated and recognized the contributions of TMCC President Hilgersom at her last quarterly meeting.

8. <u>Information Only – Chancellor's Report</u> – (Continued)

TMCC President Hilgersom stated that it has been an honor and a pleasure to serve TMCC. One great lesson she learned from former Regent Rick Trachok is to be brief, be brilliant, be gone.

- 9. <u>Information Only Board Chair's Report</u> Chair Carvalho stated she attended the ACCT National Legislative Summit with Regents Del Carlo and Brown, community college presidents, and students, meeting with the Nevada delegation. She attended the Springs Preserve Black History Month festival in February. She also attended a webinar hosted by AGB and Rutgers Graduate School of Education, titled "Optimal Board Structures and Committees for Transformational Leadership." The legislative session has been a busy start, addressing the external landscape for higher education. While she acknowledges she is only one of 13 Regents, she is working to stay the course in the System's initiatives related to research, science, grant funding, and access success and belonging on all the campuses for all students, employees, and community members. Regardless of the labels and titles of the work, she will always stand for the System's mission, including elevating the work that results in a diverse, equitable, and inclusive educational community.
- 10. <u>Approved Consent Items</u> The Board approved the consent items except Item 10b, 2026 Board of Regents Meeting Dates and Locations, which was considered separately.

Chair Carvalho clarified that under Item 10c, Tenure, the Board will consider the revised list of Nevada State University's tenure recommendations provided as supplemental material.

Regent Brooks asked that under Item 10b, 2026 Board of Regents Meeting Dates and Locations, the Board consider changing the September Board meeting dates, because September 11, 2026, is the eve of Rosh Hashanah, the beginning of the Jewish high holidays.

Regent Del Carlo asked that under Item 10b, 2026 Board of Regents Meeting Dates and Locations, the Board consider changing August 26, 2026, meeting date to August 25, 2026.

Regent Brooks requested that Item 10b, 2026 Board of Regents Meeting Dates and Locations, be pulled.

- 10a. Approved Minutes The Board approved the following meeting minutes:
 - December 4-5, 2024, Board of Regents meeting (Ref. BOR-10a1 on file in the Board Office.)
 - December 5, 2024, Foundation meetings
 - O CSN (Ref. BOR-10a2 on file in the Board Office.)
 - O DRI Research (Ref. BOR-10a3 on file in the Board Office.)
 - OPRI Research Parks Ltd. (Ref. BOR-10a4 on file in the Board Office.)
 - o GBC (Ref. BOR-10a5 on file in the Board Office.)

- 10. Approved Consent Items (Continued)
 - 10a. <u>Approved Minutes</u> (Continued)
 - December 5, 2024, Foundation meetings (Continued)
 - O NSU (Ref. BOR-10a6 on file in the Board Office.)
 - o TMCC (Ref. BOR-10a7 on file in the Board Office.)
 - O UNLV (Ref. BOR-10a8 on file in the Board Office.)
 - O UNR (Ref. BOR-10a9 on file in the Board Office.)
 - O WNC (Ref. BOR-10a10 on file in the Board Office.)
 - 10c. <u>Approved Tenure</u> The Board approved awarding tenure to the applicants who have met the standards for tenure as outlined in the NSHE <u>Code</u> (*Title* 2, *Chapters 3, 4 and 7*). (*Ref. BOR-10c1 on file in the Board Office.*)
 - University of Nevada, Las Vegas (Ref. BOR-10c2 on file in the Board Office.)
 - University of Nevada, Reno (Ref. BOR-10c3 on file in the Board Office.)
 - Nevada State University (Ref. BOR-10c4 and Supplemental Material on file in the Board Office.)
 - College of Southern Nevada (*Ref. BOR-10c5 on file in the Board Office.*)
 - Great Basin College (Ref. BOR-10c6 on file in the Board Office.)
 - Truckee Meadows Community College (Ref. BOR-10c7 on file in the Board Office.)
 - Western Nevada College (Ref. BOR-10c8 on file in the Board Office.)
 - 10d. <u>Approved Honorary Degree, GBC</u> The Board approved awarding an honorary baccalaureate degree to nominee Caroline McIntosh. (*Ref. BOR-10d on file in the Board Office.*)
 - 10e. <u>Approved Honorary Degrees, NSU</u> The Board approved awarding an honorary master's degree to the following nominees:
 - Jason Frierson (Ref. BOR-10e1 on file in the Board Office.)
 - Marydean Martin (Ref. BOR-10e2 on file in the Board Office.)
 - Richard Perkins (Ref. BOR-10e3 on file in the Board Office.)
 - 10f. <u>Approved Honorary Degrees, UNLV</u> The Board approved awarding an honorary doctorate degree to the following nominees:
 - Joe Murphy (Ref. BOR-10f1 on file in the Board Office.)
 - Claytee D. White (Ref. BOR-10f2 on file in the Board Office.)
 - 10g. <u>Approved Honorary Degrees, UNR</u> The Board approved awarding an honorary doctorate degree to the following nominees:
 - Ralph Burns (Ref. BOR-10g1 on file in the Board Office.)
 - Marilyn Newton (*Ref. BOR-10g2* on file in the Board Office.)

- 10. <u>Approved Consent Items</u> (Continued)
 - 10h. Approved Acceptance of Gift, Teaching Laboratory Equipment for College of Engineering, UNR The Board approved the acceptance of Teaching Laboratory Equipment from Keysight Technologies. (Ref. BOR-10h on file in the Board Office.)
 - 10i. <u>Approved Code Amendment, Employee Resignations</u> The Board approved an amendment to the NSHE <u>Code</u> (Title 2, Chapter 5, Section 5.15) clarifying the methods for submitting and accepting employee resignations and establishing a requirement to provide a copy of the acceptance of resignation to the employee. The proposed amendment was initially presented for information at the September 5-6, 2024, Board of Regents meeting. (Ref. BOR-10i on file in the Board Office.)

Regent Brager moved approval of the consent items except Item 10b, 2026 Board of Regents Meeting Dates and Locations, which was considered separately. Regent Del Carlo seconded. Motion carried.

(Consent item considered separately)

10b. No Action Taken – 2026 Board of Regents Meeting Dates and Locations – The Board did not take action on the following meeting dates and locations for calendar year 2026:

Quarterly meetings

- March 5-6, 2026 CSN Charleston Campus
- June 11-12, 2026 UNR
- September 10-11, 2026 TMCC
- December 3-4, 2026 UNLV

<u>Special meetings</u> – System Administration

- January 16, 2026
- February 20, 2026
- April 17, 2026
- May 15, 2026
- July 17, 2026
- August 28, 2026
- October 16, 2026
- November 20, 2026

If the Board Chair determines a special meeting is unnecessary on any given date, such meeting shall not be held.

10b. No Action Taken – 2026 Board of Regents Meeting Dates and Locations – (Continued)

Chief of Staff Nikolajewski apologized for missing the holiday and said she would appreciate time to look into new dates.

Chair Carvalho stated the item would be brought back to a future meeting.

The meeting recessed at 3:46 p.m. and reconvened at 3:59 p.m. with all members present except Regent Brown.

- 11. <u>Approved Distinguished Nevadan Awards</u> The Board approved granting the Distinguished Nevadan Award to the following nominees:
 - Lois Esther Tarkanian, Ph.D. (Ref. BOR-11a on file in the Board Office.)
 Nominated posthumously by Regent Susan Brager

Regent Brown entered the meeting.

• Claytee White (Ref. BOR-11b on file in the Board Office.)
Nominated by Chair Amy J. Carvalho

Regent McGrath moved approval of the Distinguished Nevadan Awards. Regent Brooks seconded. Motion carried.

12. <u>Information Only – Institutional Metrics, NSU (Agenda Item 18)</u> – Nevada State University President DeRionne P. Pollard presented data and metrics on NSU's progress in achieving the strategic goals adopted by the Board of Regents. The metrics presented include those identified by the Board to ensure comparability and alignment with the NSHE strategic plan. The presentation included, but not be limited to, fall enrollment and distribution data; dual credit enrollment; persistence rates; 150 percent graduation rates; outcome measures; viability and reserve ratios; and awarded degrees, certificates, and in-demand occupational credentials. (*Ref. BOR-18 on file in the Board Office.*)

In response to a question from Regent Goicoechea related to the number of years for completion, NSU President Pollard stated it could include concurrent enrollment, but typically NSU students attend part-time. If they transfer from CSN, they could have spent two to three years there and then spent another two to four years at NSU. In terms of measuring, the federal government says 150 percent, which equates to four years, plus two additional years, but it could end up at eight years.

Regent Del Carlo stated that as the President, she must decide where the resources are going and asked if NSU was able to get to the 350:1 advising ratio. NSU President Pollard knew that they were better than before, but there was probably work to be done. She would provide a definitive answer shortly.

12. <u>Information Only – Institutional Metrics, NSU (Agenda Item 18)</u> – (Continued)

Regent Boylan questioned why the nursing student level had decreased while nurses are in high demand. NSU President Pollard appreciated the question because it is a complex issue. Three reasons for the decrease: 1) They have to have faculty. Nurses have many options to choose from; 2) When tuition outpaces the student's ability to pay, they will choose to step out; and 3) NSU has the challenge of physical space. Space is highly regulated because there is a student-to-faculty ratio. NSU President Pollard stated she was sure there were many other reasons to add to that list.

NSU President Pollard stated she had received a response, and NSU was at the 350:1 advising ratio. Regent Del Carlo thanked her for the response because advising is so critical.

Regent Brager asked if a student arrives on campus, but there are no resources for nursing, does NSU help them find other resources? NSU President Pollard responded that they work hard to admit them, but nursing is a limited-enrollment program, and the student must go through a series of steps to be admitted. So NSU works hard to keep them in the program. Advising is so important to those students who may say they want to be a nurse, but maybe they want to be in the health profession. Regent Brager asked if the competition that is growing its nurses is causing challenges. NSU President Pollard stated that it does cause challenges because nurses are so sought after due to the shortage. But a greater challenge is finding hospitals for the nurses to do their rotations. NSU is competing with public and private peers.

Regent Goodman stated that the metrics are impressive. The work they are doing at NSU is significant, and it means a lot to the community.

- 13. Approved Authorization of Dedication of Deed and Associated Items with Clark County for the Tompkins Avenue Alignment at a Portion of the UNLV 42-Acre Property Generally Located at the Northeast Corner of Tropicana Avenue and Koval Lane, Clark County, and Dedication of Deed, Easement, and Associated items with Clark County for the Clark County Depressed Roadway Project Adjacent to the Maryland Campus, UNLV (Agenda Item 14) The Board approved authorization of the following:
 - 1. Dedication of Deed to Clark County at the northern edge of the UNLV 42-acre parcel for the Tompkins Avenue alignment/improvements, resulting in a dedication of land for Clark County Right of Way from UNLV to Clark County in the amount of 111,178 square feet or 2.55 acres, at no cost to Clark County, in support of the Clark County Tompkins Avenue improvements.
 - 2. Dedication of Deed to Clark County at the southern edge of the UNLV Maryland Campus for the Clark County Depressed Roadway alignment/improvements, resulting in a dedication of land for Clark County Right of Way from UNLV to Clark County in the amount of 158,722 square feet or 3.64 acres, more or less, at no cost to Clark County, in support of the Clark County Depressed Roadway.

- 13. Approved Authorization of Dedication of Deed and Associated Items with Clark County for the Tompkins Avenue Alignment at a Portion of the UNLV 42-Acre Property Generally Located at the Northeast Corner of Tropicana Avenue and Koval Lane, Clark County, and Dedication of Deed, Easement, and Associated items with Clark County for the Clark County Depressed Roadway Project Adjacent to the Maryland Campus, UNLV (Agenda Item 14) (Continued)
 - Granting to Clark County a wall maintenance easement for Clark County Depressed Roadway operations and maintenance activities and needs for the Clark County Depressed Roadway north facing wall at the southern edge of the UNLV Maryland Campus.
 - 4. Granting to Clark County a temporary construction easement at the southern edge of the UNLV Maryland Campus for Clark County Depressed Roadway alignment/improvements, resulting in a temporary construction easement for Clark County in the amount of 69,171 square feet or 1.59 acres, more or less, at no cost to Clark County, in support of the Clark County Depressed Roadway construction activities and time periods. The temporary construction easement will be in effect for the construction duration of the Clark County Depressed Roadway project.
 - 5. Entering into a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU"), License and Maintenance Agreement ("LMA") or other appropriate agreements with Clark County that will permit UNLV to paint the wall that will face the UNLV Scarlet surface parking lot at the north end of the Clark County Depressed Roadway project. UNLV intends to develop a program where UNLV students can paint (and repaint) this wall as part of a UNLV campus public art program or similar, and Clark County has been agreeable to this program, subject to finalizing care, disposition, and other wall painting requirements.

And, that the Chancellor be authorized to finalize, approve, and execute any ancillary agreements or instruments required to complete and execute Dedication of Deeds, Easements, MOUs and/or LMAs for the Property(s) including, but not limited to, any supporting conveyances, easements, rights-of-way, and nominal finalization of square footage or acreage necessary; and that all aforementioned items under the Chancellor authorization shall be reviewed and approved by the NSHE Chief General Counsel and/or NSHE designated real estate counsel to implement the terms and conditions required to finalize and execute, and administer the Dedication of Deeds, Easements, MOUs and/or LMAs, and other associated agreements, instruments, or documents for the Property(s) and/or action items approved. (Ref. BOR-14 on file in the Board Office.)

University of Nevada, Las Vegas Officer in Charge Chris Heavey presented the item.

Commissioner James B. Gibson stated this was the culmination of years of conversation and intense discussions as Clark County and UNLV worked together to find the right-sized solution that will work for both.

Regent Brager hoped that the Board would understand that Clark County is the expert at roadways and approve the item as presented.

In response to a question from Regent Boylan asking if this was an underground or depressed road, UNLV Associate Vice President of Planning, Construction, and Real Estate David Frommer portions of Tropicana will be below grade, underground but not covered, so that it can pass by Paradise Road and University Center Drive without a major intersection that is signalized. Tompkins Avenue is at grade, not depressed in any way.

Regent Brown appreciated that the County was willing to work with this Board on this particular issue. Today, the Board can be good stewards of the land, good partners with the County, and provide a welcoming entrance into the city from the airport.

Regent Brooks clarified that this began in 2017 and is working its way to fruition at this meeting. In his conversations, some think there seemed to be less property to be given to the County than where it sits today and asked for some historical context. UNLV Associate Vice President Frommer stated the project dates back to 2015, with an effort called the Southern Nevada Transportation Improvement Plan, which was looking at valley-wide traffic and how to sustain business and tourism. He stated UNLV is contributing to a joint effort. The Koval alignment has not changed. The depressed roadway is complex and has gone through multiple design refinements. Reducing the 750 parking spaces down to 350 parking spaces is approximately 2 acres that will not be contributed. He believes that less land is being contributed. UNLV Associate Vice President Frommer stated that the County did make a request in July 2020 to move the UNLV sign at the northeast corner of Tropicana and University Center Drive, which UNLV agreed to and is a part of today's item. UNLV has a billboard vendor that manages the UNLV sign on UNLV's behalf, and they have agreed to relocate the sign as part of their management.

In response to a question from Regent Goodman related to the total costs, UNLV Associate Vice President Frommer noted that the overhead project was \$90 million, and the depressed roadway is \$150 million. Regent Goodman clarified that the land is worth \$15-20 million, with UNLV Associate Vice President Frommer responding that, after some assessments, UNLV believes the land value is \$17 million. Regent Goodman asked whether, after the decrease in parking space, it is now 4.2 acres, with UNLV Associate Vice President Frommer responding that 6.2 acres is the final disposition.

Clark County Public Works Director Denis Cederburg stated the Tompkins alignment runs along the northside border of the 42 acres and connects Koval and will continue to Paradise, with a northbound to westbound connection from University Center Drive west to Koval. The concept is to eliminate and distribute some traffic off Tropicana and Harmon onto Tompkins. There will be a bridge northbound to westbound over Paradise, creating a free-flow movement.

Regent Fernandez thanked UNLV for the historical information on the project. He thanked Commissioner Gibson for his attendance and his investment and partnership.

In response to a question from Regent Boylan related to the Boring Project, UNLV Associate Vice President Frommer responded that UNLV is in active negotiation with the Boring Company, but it has not concluded.

Chair Carvalho requested that UNLV bring back renderings of the monument project. UNLV Associate Vice President Frommer stated that UNLV's intent is to coordinate with the billboard vendor to see if they will work with them on the relocation.

Regent Del Carlo stated it is wonderful for the County to work with and listen to UNLV on this project.

Regent Del Carlo moved approval of the authorization of the following: 1) Dedication of Deed to Clark County at the northern edge of the UNLV 42-acre parcel for the Tompkins alignment/improvements, resulting in a dedication of land for Clark County Right of Way from UNLV to Clark County in the amount of 111,178 square feet or 2.55 acres, at no cost to Clark County, in support Clark County Tompkins improvements; 2) Dedication of Deed to Clark County at the southern edge of the UNLV Maryland Campus for the Clark County Depressed Roadway alignment/improvements, resulting in a dedication of land for Clark County Right of Way from UNLV to Clark County in the amount of 158,722 square feet or 3.64 acres, more or less, at no cost to Clark County, in support of the Clark County Depressed Roadway; 3) Granting to Clark County a wall maintenance easement for Clark County Depressed

(Motion – Continued)

Roadway operations and maintenance activities and needs for the Clark County Depressed Roadway north facing wall at the southern edge of the UNLV Maryland Campus; 4) Granting to Clark County a temporary construction easement at the southern edge of the UNLV Maryland Campus for Clark County Depressed Roadway alignment/ improvements, resulting in a temporary construction easement for Clark County in the amount of 69,171 square feet or 1.59 acres, more or less, at no cost to Clark County, in support of the Clark County Depressed Roadway construction activities and time periods. The temporary construction easement will be in effect for the construction duration of the Clark County Depressed Roadway project; 5) Entering into a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU"), License and Maintenance Agreement ("LMA") or other appropriate agreements with Clark County that will permit UNLV to paint the wall that will face the UNLV Scarlet surface parking lot at the north end of the Clark County Depressed Roadway project. UNLV intends to develop a program where UNLV students can paint (and repaint) this wall as part of a UNLV campus public art program or similar, and Clark County has been agreeable to this program, subject to finalizing care, disposition, and other wall painting requirements; and 6) that the Chancellor be authorized to finalize, approve, and execute any ancillary agreements or instruments required to complete and execute Dedication of Deeds, Easements, MOUs and/or LMAs for the Property(s) including, but not limited to, any supporting conveyances, easements, rights-of-way, and nominal finalization of square footage or acreage necessary; and that all aforementioned items under the Chancellor authorization shall be reviewed and approved by the NSHE Chief General Counsel and/or NSHE designated real estate counsel to

(Motion – Continued)

implement the terms and conditions required to finalize and execute, and administer the Dedication of Deeds, Easements, MOUs and/or LMAs, and other associated agreements, instruments, or documents for the Property(s) and/or action items approved. Regent Brager seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

14. <u>Information Only – Purpose Statement, 42-Acre Property Located at the Northeast Corner of Tropicana Avenue and Koval Lane, Clark County, Nevada, UNLV (Agenda Item 13) – University of Nevada, Las Vegas Officer in Charge Chris Heavey presented for discussion and input a proposed purpose statement and related matters with respect to the approximately 42-acres of real property, titled in the name of the Board of Regents for the benefit of UNLV, located approximately 0.6 miles west of the UNLV Maryland Campus, near the northeast corner of Tropicana Avenue and Koval Lane in Clark County, Nevada. (Ref. BOR-13 on file in the Board Office.)</u>

Regent Brager thought the Board would like to know what other proposals are out there because this land is so valuable. She added she did not think the timing was right. UNLV Officer in Charge Heavey stated that to see what the highest and best use would be for the land they would have to go through an RFP process and set what the boundary conditions of that RFP would be.

Regent Brown was happy they were having this conversation. UNLV's reality is that it is landlocked, and as UNLV grows, it will need to focus on building more academic buildings. Regent Brown wanted to see the land as an academic space.

Regent Del Carlo noted that the bond payment is \$3 million a year, but she wanted to know what the actual cost is for UNLV after the offset, such as the billboard. UNLV Associate Vice President Frommer responded that, between all revenue sources and the next agenda item revenue, if approved, would be approximately a \$1 million offset.

UNLV Associate Vice President Frommer stated they had heard the Board's frustration and concerns related to past processes and UNLV felt that it was important to return to the Board with an information item to give the Board the opportunity to provide feedback. This land is unique and special. This proposal is a monetization approach.

Regent Brooks left the meeting.

14. <u>Information Only – Purpose Statement, 42-Acre Property Located at the Northeast Corner of Tropicana Avenue and Koval Lane, Clark County, Nevada, UNLV (Agenda Item 13)</u> – (Continued)

Regent Goodman felt the best thing UNLV could do is send an RFP with all parcel conditions noted to find a developer that will provide benefits to UNLV. This is a great opportunity, and UNLV should vet the process.

In response to a question from Regent Boylan related to past offers, UNLV Associate Vice President Frommer stated UNLV's strategy is to cast a wider net.

Regent Brooks entered the meeting.

Regent Goicoechea stated UNLV has owned the land for eight years and it's at 500 percent appreciation and only costs 1 percent a year to hold it. He did not think there was any hurry.

Regent McGrath asked how closely the value of the land is linked to the completion of the stadium project. UNLV Associate Vice President Frommer responded that the development of the stadium does have an impact on the land and only gets better as the stadium is developed. The prospects are bright.

Regent Fernandez stated he would like to hear from other experts to help guide the decision. He wanted to see the project connect the University to the community.

Regent Brager felt they needed to be cautious and not move too quickly.

Chair Carvalho agreed to be cautious. She was also cautious about the proximity to the airport as she felt there may be more land restrictions.

15. Approved – Short-Term Ground lease with Las Vegas Grand Prix for a Portion of the UNLV 42-Acre Property Generally Located on Tropicana Avenue Near Deckow Avenue, Clark County, UNLV – The Board approved entering into a Short-Term Ground Lease with Las Vegas Grand Prix, Inc. for use of approximately 8.52 acres of the UNLV owned 42-acre property generally located near the northeastern corner of Tropicana Avenue and Deckow Avenue in Clark County, Nevada; that the Chancellor be authorized to finalize, approve, and execute the Short-Term Ground Lease Agreement and any ancillary agreements or instruments required to implement and manage the Short-Term Ground Lease including, but not limited to, any amendment or extension of the Short-Term Ground Lease; and that all aforementioned agreements and instruments shall be reviewed and approved by the NSHE Chief General Counsel and/or NSHE designated real estate counsel to implement the terms and conditions required to finalize, execute, and administer the Short-Term Ground Lease. (Ref. BOR-15 on file in the Board Office.)

UNLV Associate Vice President Frommer presented the item.

15. <u>Approved – Short-Term Ground lease with Las Vegas Grand Prix for a Portion of the UNLV 42-Acre Property Generally Located on Tropicana Avenue Near Deckow Avenue, Clark County, UNLV – (Continued)</u>

In response to a question from Regent Brager asking if documents include a clause to leave the facility the same or better, with UNLV Officer in Charge Heavey responding yes that the lease agreements do include a return of the property to its original condition or better.

> Regent Goodman moved approval to enter into a Short-Term Ground Lease with Las Vegas Grand Prix, Inc. for use of approximately 8.52 acres of the UNLV owned 42-acre property generally located near the northeastern corner of Tropicana Avenue and Deckow Avenue in Clark County, Nevada; that the Chancellor be authorized to finalize, approve, and execute the Short-Term Ground Lease Agreement and any ancillary agreements or instruments required to implement and manage the Short-Term Ground Lease including, but not limited to, any amendment or extension of the Short-Term Ground Lease; and that all aforementioned agreements and instruments shall be reviewed and approved by the NSHE Chief General Counsel and/or NSHE designated real estate counsel to implement the terms and conditions required to finalize, execute, and administer the Short-Term Ground Lease. Regent Brager seconded. Motion carried.

16. <u>Information Only – Public Comment</u>

Regent Boylan left the meeting.

The following individual provided written public comment in support of faculty tenure recommendations in Agenda Item 10c (*Tenure*):

• Kathy Solano (Ref. Solano.Kathy03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individual provided written public comment in support of Claytee D. White's honorary doctorate degree nomination in Agenda Item 10f (Honorary Degrees, UNLV):

• Nakia Jackson-Hale (Ref. JacksonHale.Nakia03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individual provided written public comment in support of Claytee D. White's Distinguished Nevadan Award nomination in Agenda Item 11 (Distinguished Nevadan Award):

• Nakia Jackson-Hale (Ref. JacksonHale.Nakia03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individuals provided written public comment urging the Board to support AB 191 and respect the supermajority of Graduate Assistants' choice to unionize and continue important work at the universities in Agenda Item 20 (2025-27 Governor's Recommended Budget Update and Legislative Report):

- Leah Olson (Ref. Olson.Leah03.25 on file in the Board Office.)
- Madeline Overton (Ref. Overton.Madeline03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individual provided written public comment in support of Collective Bargaining Election, NSU in Agenda Item 40 (Collective Bargaining Election, NSU):

• Cheryl Cardoza (Ref. Cardoza. Cheryl 03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individual provided written public comment voicing concerns with the current CSN Collective Bargaining Agreement negotiations:

• Andrea Brown (Ref. Brown.Andrea03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individual provided written public comment discouraged with UNR President Sandoval advocating for tax abatements for the Grand Sierra Resort (GSR); a misalignment with UNR goals and not advancing UNR in the current political climate:

• Marian Berryhill (Ref. Berryhill.Marian03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individual provided written public comment expressing displeasure with UNR's bloated administration in the categories of administrative faculty and other employee types, while academic faculty was reduced by 15:

• Gideon Caplovitz (Ref. Caplovitz. Gideon 03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individual provided written public comment requesting a timelier grievance process:

• Che "Shay" Gant (Ref. Gant. CheShay03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individuals provided in-person public comment urging the Board to support AB 191 and respect the supermajority of Graduate Assistants' choice to unionize and continue important work at the universities in Agenda Item 20 (2025-27 Governor's Recommended Budget Update and Legislative Report):

- Kent Ervin
- Ted Johnson
- Riley Jones
- Leah Olson
- Patricia Orellana
- Madeline Overton
- Erin Rook
- Kara Smith
- Carlos Tkacz
- Elizabeth Walsh

Aaron Hill and on behalf of fellow Faculty Senate Chairs, provided in-person public comment in support of NSA President Osorio Hernández's NSA Report and his courage to advocate on behalf of student peers throughout the System.

Janeth Vences-Balvas provided in-person public comment urging the Board to continue to support the IDEA Committee and its efforts at the institutions surrounding DEI.

Teresa Marie provided in-person public comment noting how federal government changes and challenges are impacting the public service loan forgiveness and the income-based loan repayment application, which have been removed from the federal government website. She is not the only student experiencing fear and asked that the Board take the time to truly think about how these federal decisions are impacting students and how the Board's decisions and things they say impact students going forward.

Giselle Gradilla provided in-person public comment urging the Board to work alongside the Nevada State University community to protect support initiatives, which have long defined the institution. She asked what alumni, students and the community can do to ensure that these programs aren't affected and to better support institution's ability to continue offering these valuable student resources.

The meeting recessed at 6:14 p.m. and reconvened on Friday, March 7, 2025, at 8:36 a.m. with all members present except Regents Boylan and Goodman.

17. Information Only – Public Comment

The following individuals provided written public comment urging the Board to support AB 191 and respect the supermajority of Graduate Assistants' choice to unionize and continue important work at the universities in Agenda Item 20 (2025-27 Governor's Recommended Budget Update and Legislative Report):

- Ted Johnson (Ref. Johnson. Ted03.25 on file in the Board Office.)
- Erin Rook (Ref. Rook.Erin03.25 on file in the Board Office.)
- Gissel Ruiz (Ref. Ruiz. Gissel 03.25 on file in the Board Office.)
- Carlos Tkacz (Ref. Tkacz.Carlos03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

Regent Goodman entered the meeting.

The following individual provided written public comment urging the Board to support AB 188, which restores retiree health care benefits, and AB 191, authorizing collective bargaining for professional employees in Agenda Item 20 (2025-27 Governor's Recommended Budget Update and Legislative Report):

• Kent Ervin (Ref. Ervin.Kent03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individual provided written public comment listing the Nevada Faculty Alliance budget priorities in Agenda Item 20 (2025-27 Governor's Recommended Budget Update and Legislative Report):

• Kent Ervin (Ref. Ervin.Kent03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individual provided written public comment opposed to Agenda Item 26 (<u>Code</u> Amendments, Policy of the Board of Regents, Decision on Appeal; Stage 5 Appeals and Sanctions; and procedures Available When Sexual Harassment is Alleged):

• Colleen Harrington (Ref. Harrington. Colleen 03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individual provided written public comment requesting a choice in Agenda Item 26 (<u>Code</u> Amendments, Policy of the Board of Regents, Decision on Appeal; Stage 5 Appeals and Sanctions; and procedures Available When Sexual Harassment is Alleged):

• Patrick Villa

The following individuals provided in-person, telephonic, or written public comment in support of Collective Bargaining Election, NSU in Agenda Item 40 (Collective Bargaining Election, NSU):

- Rachelle Bassen
- David Cooper
- Jim New (Ref. New.Jim03.25 on file in the Board Office.)
- Leila Pazargadi (Ref. Pazargadi.Leila03.25 on file in the Board Office.)
- Patrick Villa
- Staci Walters (Ref. Walters.Staci03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individual provided written public comment voicing concerns with the current CSN Collective Bargaining Agreement negotiations:

• Staci Walters (Ref. Walters.Staci03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individual provided written public comment voicing concerns about how NSHE is being run and what that means for students, and asking NSU what they are doing to ensure students can learn in a safe, supportive environment:

• Tatyonna Raleigh (Ref. Raleigh. Tatyonna 03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individual provided in-person public comment requesting the Board invite Las Vegas Metro to present on the events of December 6, 2023, at a future meeting:

• Bill Robinson

The following individual provided in-person public comment requesting the Board use all their contacts to ensure NSHE gets legislative safety and security money:

• Doug Unger

The following individual provided in-person public comment voicing frustration with the ongoing treatment and review of fees:

• Chelsea Herrington

The following individuals provided in-person public comment speaking on DEI and student support programs at Nevada State University and the lasting impact these programs have on students and their academic journeys:

- Pedro Escalante, Jr.
- Leonardo Montoya
- 18. <u>Action Taken Collective Bargaining Election, NSU (Agenda Item 40)</u> The Board recognized the application submitted by the Nevada Faculty Alliance to seek status as the certified representative of a bargaining unit of eligible professional employees employed by NSU and provided for the American Arbitration Association to conduct an election in accordance with its rules and in compliance with *Handbook* Title 4, Chapter 4. (Ref. BOR-40 on file in the Board Office.)

Chief General Counsel Martines presented that in accordance with Handbook Title 4, Chapter 4, Section 6.1, Interim Chancellor Patricia Charlton placed the application on the Board of Regents' agenda for the Board to:

- 1. Recognize the application submitted by the Nevada Faculty Alliance to seek status as the certified representative of a bargaining unit of eligible professional employees employed by NSU; and
- 2. Provide for the American Arbitration Association to conduct an election in accordance with its rules and in compliance with *Handbook* Title 4, Chapter 4.

Regent Brager appreciated the information.

Regent Brager moved to recognize the application submitted by the Nevada Faculty Alliance to seek status as the certified representative of a bargaining unit of eligible professional employees employed by NSU and provided for the American Arbitration Association to conduct an election in accordance with its rules and in compliance with *Handbook* Title 4, Chapter 4. Regent Brown seconded.

Regent Brooks stated that the Board needs to review outdated policy before anything is placed on an agenda that forces the Board's hand, regardless of what the item is.

Chair Carvalho wholeheartedly agreed that policy revision was needed.

Regent Brager asked whether a committee or outside consultant was needed to review the *Handbook*.

Interim Chancellor Charlton stated that this is an awkward process, and she also supports a policy review.

Motion carried. Regent Boylan was absent. Regent Goodman abstained.

19. <u>Information Only – Institutional Metrics, DRI (Agenda Item 12)</u> – Desert Research Institute President Kumud Acharya presented data and metrics on DRI's progress in achieving the strategic goals adopted by the Board of Regents. The presentation included research expenditures and research citations. (*Ref. BOR-12 on file in the Board Office.*)

Regent Boylan entered the meeting.

Regent Brager stated DRI President Acharya is so energizing, and she thanked him for an uplifting presentation and for all he does at DRI.

In response to a question from Regent Goodman related to Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, DRI President Acharya responded that Woods Hole is a leader in ocean sciences all over the world and has been around for a very long time. They also have a joint Ph.D. program with MIT, and work closely with their scientists. Their reputation is global. They receive a lot of their funding from the U.S. Navy because of the work they do. This is why Woods Hole is DRI's aspirational institution.

Regent Del Carlo wished there was a different name that would place Nevada on the map rather than Desert Research Institute. DRI President Acharya noted that after 65 years of being DRI, people recognize the institute, and it is difficult to change that history.

Regent Brown stated DRI presented at the Workforce Committee, going into the deep dive of the workforce side of DRI. It's easy to say that DRI is a non-academic institution, but when you really look at the community impact and the workforce pipeline that DRI has created, in addition to all the money that is raised and research that is being done, it is such a big value add than what is reported. Research should be considered a soft power as it changes lives around the world. As NSHE deals with federal policy changes, she did not think research was the place to balance the budget. There is too much good that comes from research.

Chair Carvalho thanked DRI for the presentation.

20. <u>Information Only – Knocking at the College Door, WICHE (Agenda Item 19)</u> – Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) Vice President of Policy Analysis and Research Patrick Lane presented Knocking at the College Door which provided an analysis of the long-term projection of the number of high school graduates for all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The presentation included national, regional, and Nevada projections. (Ref. BOR-19 on file in the Board Office.)

Vice Chair Downs highlighted the successes of NSHE for underrepresented populations in Nevada and asked if the term is still applicable to this situation. Mr. Lane stated when WICHE uses the term underrepresented they track it back to the proportion of the overall population. Nevada's been a state where the plurality of students is Hispanic and have been for a long time, similar to other states in the West. Vice Chair Downs stated that there have been changes federally when it relates to the migration of people and asked if the numbers are based on previous experiences of population changes or does this account for some of the federal impacts. Mr. Lane stated that the model averages the trends over the

20. <u>Information Only – Knocking at the College Door, WICHE (Agenda Item 19)</u> – (Continued)

five years, so specific to migration, it is state-to-state migration. What they have seen in recent years is increased movement to the south. They expect that to continue. International migration is a high-level topic and beyond his pay grade.

Regent Goodman left the meeting.

Regent Brown was not surprised to see a population decline; however, when you review any economic development report that does forecasting, it is forecasted that 3.9 million will live in Nevada by statistics. For Nevada to continue to grow, it must go after the adult learners who are underperforming or need to be upskilled. Has WICHE thought about how they will work with entities to go after the adult learners? Mr. Lane stated WICHE has been thinking about this for many years. WICHE worked with Nevada and institutions in ways to lay the groundwork for things that are being discussed today. Regardless of the demographic trend of 18-year-olds, reskilling, upskilling, and providing new pathways is the essential economic development strategy. Credit for prior learning is a crucial policy and WICHE sees credit for prior learning essential. It is good for the students and increases their retention and completion, but it is also good for the institutions because those students take more classes, more credits, and are more likely to graduate, increasing tuition revenue.

Regent Goodman entered the meeting.

Regent Del Carlo thanked Mr. Lane for his presentation. She added that the Board would be remiss to not move forward to try and close the gaps.

Regent Brooks stated the information is extraordinarily useful, particularly during this time when NSHE must review the pathways for access and success for its students, while things are changing federally. In response to a question from Regent Brooks related to the WICHE mission, Mr. Lane provided a historical context of WICHE and how it relates to their specific work.

Regent Goodman stated that the data is so valuable. In response to a question from Regent Goodman related to the racial and ethnic makeup of Nevada public graduating classes, Mr. Lane responded that one of WICHE's next priorities is to review the male, female divide and he will ensure that NSHE gets a copy of it when it comes out later in the year.

WNC President Dalpe stated that WNC did a stop-out campaign for students who had a number of credits, and it was very successful, and he is happy to present on it. WNC President Dalpe asked Mr. Lane if there is data on whether Clark County is dragging down the state and does WICHE have something that drills down on the counties and the rural areas. Mr. Lane noted they do have county-level data on the 12th-grade enrollees, but WICHE would be happy to help with the data. In the report, WICHE does talk about the location of students, where they see a slight decline in the urban areas of Nevada.

20. <u>Information Only – Knocking at the College Door, WICHE (Agenda Item 19)</u> – (Continued)

Regent Brager voiced concern that licensure jobs are not counted, and she felt that was a disservice. Mr. Lane agreed that the different types of certifications are crucial, whether they are a post-secondary degree or a credential/certification of skills. If the degree has value, it should be defined by the state.

Chair Carvalho thanked Mr. Lane for his presentation.

The meeting recessed at 10:18 a.m. and reconvened at 10:37 a.m. with all members present except Regents Brown and Goodman.

21. <u>Approved – 2025-27 Governor's Recommended Budget Update and Legislative Report</u>
(Agenda Item 20) – The Board accepted the list of legislative measures on which the Chancellor has taken a position on behalf of NSHE. (Supplemental Material on file in the Board Office.)

Vice Chair Downs disclosed that he is an employee of Western Nevada College. Because the independence of judgment of a reasonable person would not be materially affected, he will vote on this matter. He disclosed the relationship under NRS Chapter 281A.

Regents Brown and Goodman entered the meeting.

Interim Chancellor Patricia Charlton, Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton, and Director of Government Relations Alejandro Rodriguez provided an update on the 2025-27 Governor's Recommended Budget and presented a summary of legislative measures.

Regent Goicoechea asked that in the future, the materials show which have been referred or have a fiscal note.

In response to a question from Chair Carvalho asking if any had a fiscal note besides AB 191, Director of Government Relations Rodriguez responded some have an appropriation tied to it.

Regent Goodman asked for clarification of the film bill. Interim Chancellor Charlton responded that there are two bills, but they anticipate they will be merged. The bill that was heard had extensive testimony from Sony and Warner Bros. and is also in collaboration with the Howard Hughes Center. UNLV Officer in Charge Heavey stated it will be located on the Howard Hughes site, and the other bill that is anticipated to drop would be at the Harry Reid Research and Technology Park. Interim Chancellor Charlton added they have requested a meeting with the bills' sponsors, including the one that has yet to be introduced.

Interim Chancellor Charlton stated she knows that discussion on AB 191 is important and wanted to provide information as to why she supported a neutral position because of the significant impact that this legislation could have on NSHE operationally and fiscally. Deputy General Counsel Carrie Parker provided background on the collective bargaining

21. <u>Approved – 2025-27 Governor's Recommended Budget Update and Legislative Report</u> (Agenda Item 20) – (Continued)

process for professional employees that are already in place in the *Handbook*, as well as an update on AB 191.

In response to a question from Chair Carvalho asking why the Board was not provided with the information in advance, Interim Chancellor Charlton responded that at the time the Board was provided supplemental materials, they did not have the testimony and were still working through proposed amendments on Tuesday. Chair Carvalho stated she felt like the collective bargaining discussion is always done outside of the Board. The Board needs the information to do its due diligence.

Regent Del Carlo agreed with Chair Carvalho and voiced her frustration that the Board could have been sent information.

Regent Goicoechea believed that everyone has a right to organize even though he did vote against it for state employees. Ultimately, in the end the Governor can say no, and the Board should have that same ability to say no.

Regent Brooks stated that besides the considerable fiscal impact, maybe the conversation should be what has gone on at the institutions where graduate assistants feel there has been a lack of responsiveness that the only way they can be heard is to organize. This is an opportunity to have ongoing conversations about their concerns and a deeper dive into the nuances.

Chair Carvalho added this bill includes the ability for graduate students to organize and it also includes the broader group of professional employees to organize.

In response to a question from Regent Fernandez asking how NSHE gathers and consolidates the fiscal notes, Chief Financial Officer Viton stated that the process is managed through the Legislative Counsel Bureau staff, who send notifications to NSHE. Then NSHE works with the institutions, circulating the request for the fiscal note that is then analyzed by System staff, summarized, and submitted to the Governor's Finance Office. Interim Chancellor Charlton stated they can provide a summary of fiscal notes, but they respond to a lot of notes that may not be bills.

Regent Goodman stated she supports the Chancellor's neutral stance.

Regent Boylan stated this has been going on since he started on the Board. Interim Chancellor Charlton stated that leadership engaged with the graduate assistants because it was alarming to hear some of the reports.

Regent Brooks believed ongoing conversations need to be had regarding the effectiveness of policies, intended use, actual use, and graduate assistants' experiences. There are students who talk to various members of the Board, and he applauds when students exercise their voice and show empowerment.

21. <u>Approved – 2025-27 Governor's Recommended Budget Update and Legislative Report</u> (Agenda Item 20) – (Continued)

Chair Carvalho noted that Board leadership and the Chancellor met with the Nevada Student Alliance that morning and heard that it is important for leadership to hear their voices and to engage with them.

Interim Chancellor Charlton stated she provided a neutral stance in order for the Board to engage, but she did think it was important for the Board to take a stance.

Regent Goicoechea stated that once the bill is drafted and a fiscal note is attached the Board will have to have a special meeting to address the bill and take a position. Director of Government Relations Rodriguez added there will be several more opportunities for the bill to be heard.

UNLV Officer in Charge Heavey thanked the Chancellor for bringing them together with the graduate assistants. He assured the Board that the concerns are being taken seriously. UNLV is already looking at national models for setting up more independent ways of having students' complaints reviewed and arbitrated, independent of this bill, because they do want to make sure that graduate students are well-treated as vital parts of their programs.

Director of Government Relations Rodriguez stated that AB 191 would be heard again and noted for purposes of the agenda item that the other positions could be approved.

Regent Brooks clarified that he is asking the Board to reaffirm its support for the other positions. Special Counsel Nielsen stated that under existing policies, the Chancellor is empowered to take a position as long as it is consistent with existing Board policy. He believed that no affirmative action would need to be taken under the list of bills, but if the Board wanted to take a different position, they could do so.

Regent Del Carlo voiced her concerns and stated she would abstain from the vote.

Regent Brown stated she was confused by the Board's rhetoric. In January, the Board talked about the fact that the Chancellor and the staff may have to take positions on bills. She stated the best part about an open transparent state is that anyone has access to Nellis. She stated this is the process of a 120-day session every two years. She understood the Board wants transparency but there is also individual responsibility to do homework.

Regent Brooks stated he has full faith in Interim Chancellor Charlton and Director of Government Relations Rodriguez while navigating Carson City.

Regent Brooks moved to accept the 2025-27 Governor's Recommended Budget Update and Legislative Report, except AB 191. Regent Boylan seconded.

Regent Fernandez commended Interim Chancellor Charlton and Director of Government Relations Director of Government Relations Rodriguez.

21. <u>Approved – 2025-27 Governor's Recommended Budget Update and Legislative Report</u> (Agenda Item 20) – (Continued)

Regent Goicoechea stated there is nothing that says the Board must endorse a bill, in his mind the action would be to accept the report.

Special Counsel Nielsen stated there is a motion on the table to accept the positions listed in the supplemental material except for AB 191.

Regent Del Carlo clarified that the Board is just accepting the report on the positions that have been stated. She respects the positions that have been taken, she was just requesting more detailed information as to the positions taken.

In response to a question from Regent Fernandez asking how NSHE stays nimble throughout the legislative process, Chief General Counsel Martines stated that moving forward if the Board would like additional information, it would be wise to move the bill to a special meeting. Any material must be provided to the public and the Board at the same time.

Regent Goicoechea stated that staff are looking for direction from the Board, and at this time, the Board does not have direction. Interim Chancellor Charlton appreciated the conversation. AB 191 is a very complicated bill and is important to many stakeholders.

Regents Brooks and Boylan withdrew the motion and second.

Regent Brooks moved to accept the list of legislative measures on which the Chancellor has taken a position on behalf of NSHE. Regent Boylan seconded. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Chair Carvalho, Vice Chair Downs, and Regents Arrascada, Bautista, Boylan, Brager, Brooks, Brown, Del Carlo, Fernandez, Goicoechea, Goodman, and McGrath voted yes.

22. <u>Information Only – Federal Higher Education Landscape (Agenda Item 21)</u> – Interim Chancellor Patricia Charlton provided a high-level overview of recent federal developments affecting higher education and discussed how the NSHE is navigating these changes and potential impacts to programs and budgets.

Regent Brooks left the meeting.

Regent Del Carlo stated that she sits on the ACCT Public Policy and Advocacy Committee and noted that anyone within the community colleges may attend.

22. <u>Information Only – Federal Higher Education Landscape (Agenda Item 21)</u> – (Continued)

UNLV Officer in Charge Heavey stated it is a time of unprecedented anxiety on campus for the faculty and students. They are seeing the kinds of concerns every day that are disrupting the campus environment because of the unpredictability of what may happen.

Regent Boylan asked for clarification of "disrupting the campus environment." Interim Chancellor Charlton provided an example related to communication about indirect costs. The indirect costs were for the National Institute of Health, which capped the amount of revenue that the institutions are dependent on. That had a potential impact of \$50 million for NSHE. Through the Nevada Attorney General, they joined litigation out of Massachusetts that was successful in getting that stay. That is an example of a disruption for faculty and researchers.

UNLV Officer in Charge Heavey stated that what he meant to convey is that the sense of uncertainty is causing students and faculty great anxiety.

DRI President Acharya stated that people are concerned about losing their livelihood.

In response to a question from Regent Boylan asking whether ICE had been on campus, UNLV Officer in Charge Heavey and UNR President Sandoval both responded no.

Regent Brown reminded the Board that they have heard from students who have expressed problems and disruptions.

Regent Fernandez told faculty, staff, and students that he does understand and that he hears them.

WNC President Dalpe stated that uncertainty in and of itself is disruptive.

Regent Del Carlo stated that while attending the ACCT Legislative Summit, Interim Chancellor Charlton provided the impacts of suspending grants by institution. Then, when they went to Capitol Hill they spoke about those impacts.

23. <u>Action Taken – Personnel Session, Annual Evaluation, Interim Chancellor Patricia Charlton (Agenda Item 22)</u> – The Board accepted Interim Chancellor Patricia Charlton's annual evaluation report. (Ref. BOR-22 on file in the Board Office.)

Vice Chair Downs disclosed that he is an employee of Western Nevada College. Because the independence of judgment of a reasonable person would not be materially affected, he will vote on this matter. He disclosed the relationship under NRS Chapter 281A.

Pursuant to the NSHE Procedures and Guidelines Manual (Chapter 2, Section 2, Subsections 4.C and 5), Chair Amy J. Carvalho presented the annual evaluation report for Interim Chancellor Patricia Charlton.

23. <u>Action Taken – Personnel Session, Annual Evaluation, Interim Chancellor Patricia</u> Charlton (Agenda Item 22) – (Continued)

Regent Brooks moved to accept Interim Chancellor Patricia Charlton's annual evaluation report. Regent Brown seconded.

Regent Goodman stated Interim Chancellor Charlton has done an incredible job, she respects her leadership and is thankful for her service.

Vice Chair Downs stated he has enjoyed working with Interim Chancellor Charlton. She is knowledgeable and responsive, and thanked her for pushing through the hard things.

Regent Boylan stated he was disappointed she was not applying for the permanent position. He thanked her for her communication, and he looks forward to working with her in the future.

Regent Brager appreciated what Interim Chancellor Charlton has done. She has met the challenges head-on.

Regent Brown stated Interim Chancellor Charlton was the right person to take the helm at the time. She has been a strong leader and with her institutional knowledge has made so many things possible.

Regent Brooks stated he appreciates Interim Chancellor Charlton and all the things she has accomplished.

Regent Del Carlo thanked Interim Chancellor Charlton for her hard work and depth of knowledge.

Motion carried.

The meeting recessed at 12:26 p.m. and reconvened at 12:49 p.m. with all members present except Regent Boylan.

24. <u>Information Only – Student Mental Health Fees and Services (Agenda Item 23)</u> – University of Nevada, Las Vegas Associate Vice President for Wellness Jamie Davidson and UNR Director of Counseling Services Yani Dickens, co-chairs of the NSHE Mental Health Task Force, presented on student mental health fees and services across NSHE. The presentation included a breakdown of services continued and discontinued by each institution after the end of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration grant, as well as Task Force recommendations to support student mental health including 1) Make the Mental Health Task Force a standing committee; 2) Adopt an aspirational goal for he minimal level of mental health services to be provided to students at NSHE institutions; and 3) Work to secure state dollars to fund essential mental health services. (*Ref. BOR-23 on file in the Board Office.*)

Regent Bautista left the meeting.

24. <u>Information Only – Student Mental Health Fees and Services (Agenda Item 23)</u> – (Continued)

Regent Goicoechea stated that the rural communities are a mental health desert and added how critical mental health funding is.

In response to a question from Regent Arrascada asking who the services will be provided by, UNR Director Dickens responded it will be a multidisciplinary approach. Regent Arrascada asked if they would be willing to use interns with preceptors to review their notes. UNR Director Dickens responded absolutely and added that both UNR and UNLV have strong training programs, which also contribute to workforce development.

Regent Fernandez stated he agrees with the general recommendations. He asked if there is anything barring community colleges from being able to charge mental health fees, and is there an opportunity for increased buying power by taking a system approach? UNLV Associate Vice President Davidson stated that the task force has talked about buying together to receive the most favorable terms for the services they provide. Interim Chancellor Charlton stated it would be good to hear from the community college presidents on the fee, as many students are sensitive to fee increases.

GBC Interim President Donnelli stated that GBC utilized \$47,000 from the SAMHSA grant and has utilized licensed counselors within the college to train mental health first aid, and then train the faculty. GBC knew they needed to do something for the students within the communities, so they went and found a private donor. When they instituted BetterMynd they saw increased usage of the service.

Regent Bautista entered the meeting.

TMCC President Hilgersom stated that TMCC has been extremely cautious when it comes to student fees, and so they have four tenured counselors and one mental health professional in the counseling area. TMCC works with approximately 600 veterans a year, many with mental health needs associated with live combat. If a student needs more than the department offers, TMCC has an agreement with UNSOM at Renown and can refer the students and cover their first five appointments if they do not have insurance.

Interim Chancellor Charlton pointed out that this Board and many of the institutions prioritized mental health as part of its operating priorities. NSHE has a \$4 million request built into the legislative process for mental health support.

WNC President Dalpe noted that WNC did receive a Carson City Community Support Services Grant to fund BetterMynd. The usage went beyond the license fee, so WNC added on since there was such a need.

CSN Acting President Kibler stated CSN has many of these services all funded by state positions but for a student body this size they are understaffed. He added that there is one area that has not been mentioned, which is disability services which are extremely needed at CSN.

24. <u>Information Only – Student Mental Health Fees and Services (Agenda Item 23)</u> – (Continued)

Dr. Annise Prewitt, Licensed Therapist, NSU, stated that all NSU students have access to five free counseling sessions, with only her in the counseling department. It is important that students have access to services and that there are no barriers to that access.

Regent Goodman stated that 67 percent of college students nationwide have placed a gambling bet. Gambling disorders have the highest suicide rate. CASAT distributes information on free services provided by the state and could be distributed to students.

In response to a question from Regent McGrath related to screening that is being done, UNLV Associate Vice President Davidson stated UNLV has multiple layers of screening, including the University Support Team that receives referrals from faculty, staff, and other students. Every week, they talk to 40 to 50 students who need some level of support, many needing intervention. The team works to connect students to services before they're in a crisis or before the problem becomes even more complicated. Dr. Prewitt stated that NSU's assessment tool screens for suicidality, gambling and other addictions. NSU lost the MindWise screening tool, heavily used by the student body, due to lack of funding.

Regent Brooks stated that years ago as a volunteer instructor for LivingWorks for suicide prevention, he gave a class at UNLV. The individuals who graduated from the class wore a special pin that would identify them as a suicide prevention resource for students who are on campus. He believed something like that would be beneficial.

In response to a question from Regent Brown asking how the information is shared with students that are paying the fee, UNR Director Dickens responded UNR does campus tours, NevadaFit, and has a satellite clinic that provides nonclinical consultations. Students have multiple ways to access services.

Regent Boylan entered the meeting.

Regent Goicoechea stated that if community colleges could be the delivery point, he thought local governments would be willing to step up.

In response to a question from Regent Arrascada asking if they focus on homicidal ideation, UNLV Associate Vice President Davidson responded yes. All students are screened, and at any given time at the UNLV Counseling Center, 20 percent of people being seen have some degree of suicidal ideation.

Regent Brooks left the meeting.

Interim Chancellor Charlton stated this is a topic of interest, especially since there is a legislative request. They will continue the good work from the Mental Health Task Force. She thanked everyone for their participation.

25. <u>Information Only – Institutional Advisory Council Reports, CSN, GBC, TMCC, and WNC (Agenda Item 24)</u> – College of Southern Nevada Acting President William L. Kibler, Great Basin College Interim President Amber Donnelli, Truckee Meadows Community College President Karin M. Hilgersom, and Western Nevada College President J. Kyle Dalpe presented a report on the activities undertaken by their respective Institutional Advisory Council, including any changes in membership, for the period of March 2023 to December 2024, pursuant to Board policy (Title 4, Chapter 14, Section 30). (Ref. BOR-24 on file in the Board Office.)

CSN Acting President William L. Kibler introduced Randy Robinson and presented CSN's report on the activities undertaken by the CSN Institutional Advisory Council.

Regent Arrascada left the meeting.

WNC President J. Kyle Dalpe introduced Cary Richardson, who presented WNC's report on the activities undertaken by the WNC Institutional Advisory Council.

GBC Interim President Amber Donnelli introduced John Tierney, who presented GBC's report on the activities undertaken by the GBC Institutional Advisory Council.

Regent Brooks entered the meeting.

TMCC President Karin M. Hilgersom introduced Nancy McCormick, who presented TMCC's report on the activities undertaken by the TMCC Institutional Advisory Council.

Regent Arrascada entered the meeting.

26. Approved – Code Amendments, Rules and Disciplinary Procedures for Faculty Except DRI; Rules of Conduct and Procedures for Students (Agenda Item 25) – The Board approved amendments to the NSHE Code (Title 2, Chapters 6 and 10), currently in effect on a temporary and emergency basis. The amendments conform to revisions to Board policy (Title 4, Chapter 8, Section 14) necessary to comply with the vacatur of the U.S. Department of Education's 2024 Title IX regulations. (Ref. BOR-25 on file in the Board Office.)

Vice Chair Downs disclosed that he is an employee of Western Nevada College. Because the independence of judgment of a reasonable person would not be materially affected, he will vote on this matter. He disclosed the relationship under NRS Chapter 281A.

Senior Associate General Counsel Lynda King presented the amendments to the NSHE <u>Code</u> (*Title 2, Chapters 6 and 10*). The proposed amendments are currently in effect on a temporary and emergency basis. The amendments conform to revisions to Board policy (*Title 4, Chapter 8, Section 14*) necessary to comply with the vacatur of the U.S. Department of Education's 2024 Title IX regulations.

Vice Chair Downs moved approval of the amendments to the NSHE <u>Code</u> (*Title 2, Chapters 6 and 10*), currently in effect on a temporary and emergency basis. Regent Brooks seconded. Motion carried.

27. Approved – Code Amendments, Policy of the Board of Regents, Decision on Appeal; Stage 5 Appeals and Sanctions; and Procedures Available When Sexual Harassment is Alleged (Agenda Item 26) – The Boad approved proposed amendments to the NSHE Code (Title 2, Chapter 6, Section 6.13.2; and Title 2, Chapter 8, Sections 8.4.6 and 8.6(i)) that allow appeals of for cause terminations of employment to be appealed to the Chancellor, in consultation with the Board Chair, rather than the Board of Regents. The proposed amendments were initially presented for information at the December 4-5, 2024, Board of Regents meeting. (Ref. BOR-26 on file in the Board Office.)

Vice Chair Downs disclosed that he is an employee of Western Nevada College. Because the independence of judgment of a reasonable person would not be materially affected, he will vote on this matter. He disclosed the relationship under NRS Chapter 281A.

Regent Goodman left the meeting.

Chief General Counsel James Martines presented proposed amendments to the NSHE <u>Code</u> (*Title 2, Chapter 6, Section 6.13.2; and Title 2, Chapter 8, Sections 8.4.6 and 8.6(i)*) that allow appeals of *for cause* terminations of employment to be appealed to the Chancellor, in consultation with the Board Chair, rather than the Board of Regents.

Regent Goodman entered the meeting.

Vice Chair Downs asked if the third option was off the table, with Chief General Counsel Martines responding that any substantive change would have to go through the process again for a first and second reading. If the Board wanted to go in a different direction, Chief General Counsel Martines recommended voting no or not at all, then the process would stay the same.

Regent Goodman moved approval of the proposed amendments to the NSHE <u>Code</u> (Title 2, Chapter 6, Section 6.13.2; and Title 2, Chapter 8, Sections 8.4.6 and 8.6(i)) that allow appeals of for cause terminations of employment to be appealed to the Chancellor, in consultation with the Board Chair, rather than the Board of Regents. Regent Brooks seconded.

In response to a question from Regent Del Carlo asking when the last Chapter 6 hearing was, Chief General Counsel Martines responded in 2022. Regent Del Carlo stated this has been a policy since 1971, and during her time on the Board, she has been a part of four. She didn't believe an appeal would come to this level unless it was serious. She did not think the Board should give this responsibility up and will vote no.

Regent McGrath asked if the Board would receive any communication of what has occurred. Chief General Counsel Martines responded that under the current proposal, it would not go to the Board, only the Chancellor and Board Chair. The Board has access to confidential personnel records at any time, but under the proposal it would not be a part of the process.

27. <u>Approved – Code Amendments, Policy of the Board of Regents, Decision on Appeal; Stage</u>
5 Appeals and Sanctions; and Procedures Available When Sexual Harassment is Alleged
(Agenda Item 26) – (Continued)

WNC Faculty Senate Chair Schmidt, UNLV Faculty Senate Chair Arteaga, NSU Faculty Senate Chair Cooper, and CSN Faculty Senate Chair Conner encouraged the Board to vote against the proposal.

Regent Boylan stated he is not in favor of the proposal.

In response to a request from Regent Brooks related to the process, Chief General Counsel Martines provided a step-by-step of the process.

Chair Carvalho stated that after her research, she believes the current policy in place is the best.

Regent Goodman stated NSHE has incredible presidents who are monitoring the process on their campuses, and it is the Board's job to look at it once it rises to the Board level.

Motion failed. Regents Brooks, Brown, Fernandez, and Goodman voted yes. Chair Carvalho, Vice Chair Downs, and Regents Arrascada, Bautista, Boylan, Brager, Del Carlo, Goicoechea, and McGrath voted no.

The meeting recessed at 2:52 p.m. and reconvened at 3:04 p.m. with all members present except Regents Brooks, Del Carlo, and Goodman.

28. <u>Approved – Athletics Reports, UNR, CSN, and TMCC (Agenda Item 30)</u> – The Board approved the FY 2023-2024 UNR, CSN, and TMCC Athletics Reports and directed UNLV to bring its report back at a future meeting of the Board. (Refs. BOR-30a, BOR-30b, BOR-30c, BOR-30d, and Supplemental Material on file in the Board Office.)

Truckee Meadows Community College Athletic Director Geoffrey Hawkins; College of Southern Nevada Athletic Director Yvonne Wade; University of Nevada, Reno Athletic Director Stephanie Rempe; and University of Nevada, Las Vegas Athletic Director Erick Harper presented their respective institution's Athletics Report for Fiscal Year 2023-2024, pursuant to Board policy (*Title 4, Chapter 24, Section 1, Subsection 9*).

Regents Brooks and Goodman entered the meeting.

In response to a question from Regent Brown related to \$13,000 in projected gifts and ending reserves, TMCC Vice President of Finance and Government Relations Mike Peyerl responded that gifts each year are run through the Foundations as active campaigns, and the donations are aspirational. The reserves will run out in FY 27 based on cost projections before the December Board of Regents meeting, in which TMCC's Health and Fitness fee was increased with student support, which will offset the reserves balance.

28. <u>Approved – Athletics Reports, UNR, CSN, and TMCC (Agenda Item 30)</u> – (Continued)

Regent Brooks noted the difference between FY 24 and FY 25 and wondered why projected operations would decrease. TMCC Vice President of Finance and Government Relations Peyerl stated that the spike in operational costs was due to equipment purchases that TMCC does not anticipate in the next year.

In response to a question from Regent Arrascada related to ticket sales, TMCC Athletic Director Hawkins responded TMCC does not currently charge for tickets but is working with Hometown Tickets to potentially charge for tickets in the future, especially once TMCC begins Women's Volleyball.

Regent Brown recognized the student fee increase to \$5 starting in FY 26 and the rationale provided to become solvent, and thanked CSN for showing the detailed plan.

In response to a question from Regent Brown related to ticket sales, UNR Athletic Director Rempe responded they have work to do in some areas of tickets sales, with sponsorship and licensing revenue, so they are working with the campus to show transparency with checks and balances, as they know they cannot end in a deficit.

Regent Brown asked for an explanation on why ending reserves doesn't change, but there are outstanding items not accounted for. UNLV Athletics Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Covington responded that they are working with campus partners on how to right-size the budgets and develop proper spending plans to get to a healthy plan moving forward.

Regent Brown felt it was creative accounting if UNLV Athletics was using \$5 million in unrestricted investment operating distributions, which are not infinite since they come from NSHE investments. She understood it was allowed, but she worried that the deficit would be \$31 million, not \$26 million. UNLV Vice President Casey Wyman responded yes, the money did come from the investment operating distribution, but the decision wasn't made lightly. It was a very deliberate process when he, then UNLV President Whitfield, and UNLV Director of Athletics Harper met in December to discuss how the current fiscal year was playing out. Some things that had been reduced needed to be restored to not affect the student-athlete experience. That is why they decided to go further into investment income to restore that monetary amount to a breakeven point, knowing that would bridge the gap for the current fiscal year and allow more time to evaluate the performance and make sure that they were not overcutting or overpromising as they moved into a 10-year plan.

Regent Brown voiced concern that taking from unrestricted operating distribution in order not to increase the deficit is not a plan. It doesn't look like spending is decreasing, it just looks like money is being moved around. UNLV Vice President Wyman stated the intent of the movement of funds was to move resources, so they did not decrease Athletic support based on the level of competitiveness.

Regent Brooks stated the Board was presented with a budget in the Business, Finance, and Facilities Committee, and between then and today the deficit is closer to \$31 million. He

28. <u>Approved – Athletics Reports, UNR, CSN, and TMCC (Agenda Item 30)</u> – (Continued)

asked if that is a factual statement. UNLV Director of Athletics Harper stated that it is standard across the country that campuses support Athletic Departments. Ninety-eight (98) percent of schools across the country have a deficit at the end of every year in college athletics due to a host of different factors. Because of various adjustments, UNLV Athletics is experiencing some challenges. What is on paper is the support that the campus is providing.

Regent Brooks appreciated the comments and stated he has no doubt that UNLV Director of Athletics Harper is extraordinarily knowledgeable in the business of collegiate athletics, but he is trying to understand why there is a different deficit yesterday compared to today's conversation. Regent Brooks asked after money is shifted what the actual deficit is for Athletics.

Regent Brown stated that page 27 shows a beginning reserves deficit of \$6 million, which means \$6 million is being held in reserves. If that ends up being used towards future payments, Athletics is already \$10 million from the unrestricted operating distribution towards Athletics, which totals \$16 million, but the ending reserves are not getting any smaller. The plan seems to be to use unrestricted operating distribution in perpetuity because they have more future transfers in. But if they skip ahead to FY 27 projections and look at the conference and NCAA distribution, it bumps from \$8.2 to \$14.4. UNLV Director of Athletics Harper clarified that it is conference distribution and fundraising. Regent Brown stated her concern is that the Board's understanding was that the money would go towards the deficit, but it is showing that it is going towards operating, so the deficit isn't ever getting any smaller, and she did not see a path forward.

UNLV Director of Athletics Harper stated that all the conference money is not being allocated for revenue within the budget. Once final numbers are received, UNLV will provide the Board with a plan for what will go toward the deficit and what will go into operating. A portion of the settlement will be distributed over six years. Regent Brown stated she would be more comfortable with expanded detail in the report.

UNLV Officer in Charge Heavey agreed that this document does not show a plan to close the deficit, and he will commit to developing a plan that is credible and that shows progress to bring spending in line with revenue.

Regent Arrascada read the footnote on page 26 into the record and asked for clarity. UNLV Officer in Charge Heavey stated that meant to him that they would figure out a reasonable path towards sustaining these important programs and that they may have to put in some additional resources. He stated this is a valuable service to students and the community that UNLV is committed to.

UNLV Vice President Wyman stated that central resources are funds that are not pushed down to the department level under the authority of the President and are required to run a university. Some of those resources are through investment income and decisions are made

28. Approved – Athletics Reports, UNR, CSN, and TMCC (Agenda Item 30) – (Continued)

in real time. In this case, UNLV used \$5 million of unplanned resources within the operating investment distribution and distributed those funds to Athletics to ensure that they did not show further deficits in the financials.

Interim Chancellor Charlton stated she would provide the exact language regarding the state appropriation and the allowable expenditures. Regent Arrascada asked to ensure equity between the two university Athletic Departments.

In response to a question from Regent Arrascada asking how UNLV would pay for the new men's basketball coach, UNLV Director of Athletics Harper stated they will receive \$1.5 million in the next two fiscal years for a buyout of the old coach, philanthropic dollars, increased ticket sales, increased single game cost pricing, increased suite pricing, and increased new VIP ticket holders.

Regent Arrascada stated that personnel costs are skyrocketing. UNLV Director of Athletics Harper stated he will have to get more details for the Board.

UNLV Director of Athletics Harper stated UNLV has instituted the new annual giving plan with the Rebel rebrand, which began in October 2024. UNLV has also increased revenue streams with Nike, their multimedia partner, and the 'Rebel Up' campaign.

Regent Arrascada requested a list of the mentioned 95 percent of schools that are utilizing campus finances to offset Athletic Department deficits.

Regent Goodman stated she has faith that UNLV is ready to move forward and be fiscally responsible but reiterated that the Regents are paying attention.

Regent Boylan requested a report from the Athletic Departments related to the safety of female athletes.

Regent Fernandez stated he is incredibly proud to be a UNLV alumnus. People remember the days of Coach Tarkanian's program, where it was about building community, and urged UNLV to move in that direction.

Regent Fernandez asked why there is an inconsistency between the budget actuals from what was presented at the Business, Finance and Facilities Committee versus today's report. Regent Brooks clarified that the Business, Finance and Facilities Committee budget numbers for FY 23 and FY 24 are different than what is presented today. UNLV Officer in Charge Heavey acknowledged the numbers should not be different between documents, but he did not believe UNLV has the answers today and requested time to research and report back.

Regent Fernandez also asked for the method by which the reports were validated. Interim Chancellor Charlton stated they would discuss it with the institution and report back with a response.

28. Approved – Athletics Reports, UNR, CSN, and TMCC (Agenda Item 30) – (Continued)

Vice Chair Downs moved approval of the FY 2023-2024 UNR, CSN, and TMCC Athletics Reports and directed UNLV to bring its report back at a future meeting of the Board. Regent Goodman seconded. Motion carried. Regent Del Carlo was absent.

29. <u>Approved – Handbook Revision, Paid Family Leave (Agenda Item 27)</u> – The Board approved a revision to Board policy (*Title 4, Chapter 3, Section 19*) providing paid family leave in alignment with guidance from the State of Nevada Department of Administration, Division of Human Resource Management, implementing Assembly Bill 376 passed in the 2023 Session of the Nevada Legislature. (*Ref. BOR-27 on file in the Board Office.*)

Vice Chair Downs disclosed that he is an employee of Western Nevada College. Because the independence of judgment of a reasonable person would not be materially affected, he will vote on this matter. He disclosed the relationship under NRS Chapter 281A.

Regent Boylan left the meeting.

Interim Chief Human Resources Officer Kelly Scherado presented a revision to Board policy (*Title 4, Chapter 3, Section 19*) providing paid family leave in alignment with guidance from the State of Nevada Department of Administration, Division of Human Resource Management, implementing Assembly Bill 376 passed in the 2023 Session of the Nevada Legislature.

Regent Goodman moved approval of a revision to Board policy (*Title 4, Chapter 3, Section 19*) providing paid family leave in alignment with guidance from the State of Nevada Department of Administration, Division of Human Resource Management, implementing Assembly Bill 376 passed in the 2023 Session of the Nevada Legislature. Regent Brager seconded. Motion carried. Regents Boylan and Del Carlo were absent.

30. <u>Information Only – Employee Contract Buyouts Report (Agenda Item 28)</u> – Interim Chief Human Resources Officer Kelly Scherado presented the annual report on employee contract buyouts for each institution and System Administration pursuant to Board policy (Title 4, Chapter 3, Section 49). (Ref. BOR-28 on file in the Board Office.)

Regent Brooks thanked Interim Chief Human Resources Officer Scherado for the presentation. Regent Brooks asked for clarity on the accuracy of the report and whether it is based on certain time frames. Chief General Counsel Martines thought he might be asking what types of settlements or buyouts are included in the report. The policy language is very specific to notices of non-reappointment and notices of termination that are not for

30. <u>Information Only – Employee Contract Buyouts Report (Agenda Item 28)</u> – (Continued)

cause outlined in the <u>Code</u>, Chapter 5. If there is a for cause termination or anticipated litigation, those would not be included in this report because there is no way to easily calculate the benefit on those settlements.

Regent Brooks thought the purpose of the report was to show if there is a separation and whether there is a buyout. Chief General Counsel Martines understood that he suspected separations had happened and were not included in the report. It is because it was processed differently, and those records are available for Regent review as confidential personnel records. Legal can show the details of the separation, how it was processed, and why it is not included in this report.

Regent Brooks concluded that the report is not indicative of the actual cost to the institution for employees who have separated based on various categories, even though there is a financial loss to the institution. He did not view this as accurate reporting. Chief General Counsel Martines stated the report was created because of individuals' notice periods associated with a contract notice of nonreappointment. The Board ultimately settled on that if the institution was going to go through the process, they wanted to see the institution realize cost savings.

Regent Del Carlo entered the meeting.

In response to a question from Regent Brooks asking about the spend category for buyouts, Chief Financial Officer Viton responded that within the payroll system, it would depend on the nature of the payment and what classification it was recorded under. There are certain spend categories that account for payments made at separation. He would need to confirm those specific to a severance payment versus other accrued benefits that are paid out.

CSN Acting President Kibler clarified that he has had several contract nonrenewals, but they are offered the option to be paid out or to buyout. If an employee takes a payout, they still provide work for the institution.

Chair Carvalho announced that Agenda Item 29, Student Fee Account Balances Quarterly Update, UNLV would be postponed.

- 31. <u>Postponed Student Fee Account Balances Quarterly Update, UNLV (Agenda Item 29) The item was postponed. (Ref. BOR-29 on file in the Board Office.)</u>
- 32. <u>Approved Request to Postpone Initiation of the Next Campus Master Plan, UNR (Agenda Item 31)</u> The Board approved to postpone the initiation of UNR's next 10-year Campus Master Plan until 2026. (Ref. BOR-31 on file in the Board Office.)

University of Nevada, Reno President Brian Sandoval requested to postpone the initiation of the University's next 10-year Campus Master Plan until 2026. The request is prompted by two significant external projects, both fully funded and currently undergoing due diligence, which could substantially impact the University's strategic planning efforts.

32. <u>Approved – Request to Postpone Initiation of the Next Campus Master Plan, UNR (Agenda Item 31) – (Continued)</u>

Regent Arrascada moved approval to postpone the initiation of UNR's next 10-year Campus Master Plan until 2026. Regent Brager seconded. Motion carried. Regent Boylan was absent.

33. <u>Approved – Redfield Campus Master Plan Update, UNR and TMCC (Agenda Item 32)</u> – The Board approved the Redfield Campus Master Plan Update. (Ref. BOR-32 on file in the Board Office.)

Regent Boylan entered the meeting.

University of Nevada, Reno President Brian Sandoval presented the Redfield Campus Master Plan Update.

Regent Brooks moved approval of the Redfield Campus Master Plan Update. Regent Arrascada seconded. Motion carried.

Chair Carvalho stated that Agenda Items 33-39 (Agenda Item 33, ad hoc TMCC President Search Committee; Agenda Item 34, Health Sciences System Committee; Agenda Item 35, Workforce Committee; Agenda Item 36, Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee; Agenda Item 37, Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee; Agenda Item 38, Business, Finance and Facilities Committee; and Agenda Item 39, Security Committee, listed in the minutes as 34-40) would be taken together as one item.

34. <u>Approved – ad hoc TMCC President Search Committee Report (Agenda Item 33)</u> – The Board accepted the ad hoc TMCC President Search Committee report and approved the Committee recommendation. (Committee report on file in the Board Office.)

Information items

The ad hoc TMCC President Search Committee met on December 11, 2024, and heard the following:

Pursuant to the delegation of authority granted by the Board of Regents to the ad hoc Truckee Meadows Community College Search Committee at the October 18, 2024, special meeting, Regents and advisory members:

- Were welcomed by Committee Chair Carol Del Carlo and participants provided brief introductions.
- Were provided an overview of the Nevada Open Meeting Law as it relates to the search process by Special Counsel to the Board of Regents Chris Nielsen.

34. <u>Approved – ad hoc TMCC President Search Committee Report (Agenda Item 33)</u> – (Continued)

<u>Information items</u> – (Continued)

- Heard proposals for executive search services from AGB Search, ACCT Searches, and Gold Hill Associates, including responses to follow-up questions asked by the Committee (Refs. TMCC PSC-4a, TMCC PSC-4b and TMCC PSC-4c on file in the Board Office.)
- Discussed and provided their assessment of the search firm proposals.
 Following the discussion, the Regents' Committee selected ACCT
 Search to enter negotiations with the Nevada System of Higher Education
 for a contract with the Board of Regents on behalf of the Truckee
 Meadows Community College to provide executive search services and
 aid the ad hoc TMCC President Search Committee in the search for a
 permanent President of TMCC.

The ad hoc TMCC President Search Committee met on February 5, 2025, and heard the following:

- Committee Chair Del Carlo and ACCT Search consultants Julie Golder, J.D. and Deborah DiThomas, Ed.D. reviewed the president search process which included a proposed timeline; recruitment and screening of applicants; semifinalist candidate interviews to be conducted by the Search Chair, in consultation with the search consultants; selection of finalist candidates by the Search Chair; on-campus forums with each finalist; inperson interviews with the Search Committee; and the recommendation of a nominee, or nominees for consideration by the full Board of Regents. (Ref. TMCC PSC-3a and TMCC PSC-3b on file in the Board Office.)
- The Committee reviewed and discussed the draft President Leadership Profile and directed the search consultants to revise the draft based on comments received at the meeting, with final review and approval by the Committee Chair. (Ref. TMCC PSC-4 on file in the Board Office.)
- The Committee reviewed and approved the publications in which to place the TMCC president advertisement, including those mentioned by the Committee and consultants. (Ref. TMCC PSC-5 on file in the Board Office.)

Action items

The Board approved the following recommendation of the ad hoc TMCC President Search Committee:

34. <u>Approved – ad hoc TMCC President Search Committee Report (Agenda Item 33)</u> – (Continued)

Action items – (Continued)

- The minutes from the December 11, 2024, meeting. (Ref. TMCC PSC-2 on file in the Board Office.)
- 35. <u>Approved Health Sciences System Committee Report (Agenda Item 34)</u> The Board accepted the Health Sciences System Committee report and approved the Committee recommendations. (Committee report on file in the Board Office.)

Information items

The Health Sciences System Committee met on December 16, 2024, and heard the following:

- Committee Chair Stephanie Goodman provided general remarks on activities and updates since the last meeting of the Committee.
- Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences Dr. Marcia Turner provided an overview of the history and current focus of the System's health sciences operations. Additionally, Dr. Turner shared an update on NSHE's plan for overseeing health science-related matters throughout the upcoming Legislative Session.
- Dean of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine, Dr. Marc J. Kahn, and Dean of the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine, Dr. Paul J. Hauptman, provided a report on their respective medical school budgets, including organizational structures, funding by source, expenditures, income, and financial status. (*Refs. HSS-5a and HSS-5b on file in the Board Office.*)
- Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Dr. Daniel Archer provided information on the math pathways work underway with NSHE's systemwide Launch Years Initiative Task Force, current Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) math pathways at the universities, preliminary findings from a systemwide academic discipline survey, Dana Center sample math pathways, and next steps for the System. (Ref. HSS-7 on file in the Board Office.)

The Health Sciences System Committee met on March 6, 2025, and heard the following:

35. Approved – Health Sciences System Committee Report (Agenda Item 34) – (Continued)

<u>Information items</u> – (Continued)

- Committee Chair Goodman provided general remarks on activities and updates since the last meeting of the Committee.
- Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences Dr. Marcia Turner provided an update on general health science developments in Nevada and across the system.
- Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Dr. Daniel Vice Chancellor Archer provided an update on the workforce gap analysis being conducted by the University Center for Economic Development at UNR. The analysis will evaluate the alignment between higher education programs, graduate output, and labor market demands. Additionally, it will identify both workforce shortages and areas of oversupply. While this project is being driven by the Board of Regents' Workforce Committee, its findings may inform future discussions within the Health Sciences System Committee regarding health science program offerings, health science training opportunities, and health science workforce pipeline development.
- Dr. James Mah, UNLV School of Dental Medicine Dean, and Dr. Janice Glasper, CSN Engelstad School of Health Sciences Dean, presented on the collaborative partnership between the two institutions that highlights the initial plan to increase Nevada's access to affordable, quality dental care and strengthen the dental workforce. The presentation included an overview of seven specific goals for collaboration that are prioritized for implementation, a summary of where the institutions are in their progress, and a preview of the next steps. (Ref. HSS-6 on file in the Board Office.)

Action items

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

December 16, 2024, meeting

- The minutes from the September 5, 2024, meeting. (Ref. HSS-2 on file in the Board Office.)
- *Handbook* revision (*Title 4, Chapter 1, Section 21*) eliminating the NSHE AIDS Guidelines. (*Ref. HSS-6 on file in the Board Office.*)

35. Approved – Health Sciences System Committee Report (Agenda Item 34) – (Continued)

<u>Action items</u> – (Continued)

March 6, 2025, meeting

- The minutes from the September 5, 2024, meeting. (Ref. HSS-2 on file in the Board Office.)
- 36. <u>Approved Workforce Committee Report (Agenda Item 35)</u> The Board accepted the Workforce Committee report and approved the Committee recommendation. (Committee report on file in the Board Office.)

The Workforce Committee met on February 19, 2025, and heard the following:

Information items

- Committee Chair Heather Brown shared her gratitude for the additional time for the strategic shift to off-cycle meetings for the Workforce Committee. She acknowledged the time and effort this shift has and will require as the System seeks to streamline operations to strengthen all the institutions and positively impact the student experience.
- Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Daniel Archer presented an overview of credit for prior learning (CPL), opportunities to streamline across the system, and a timeline for completion of milestones related to CPL. (*Ref. WF-4 on file in the Board Office.*)
- Assistant Vice Chancellor for Workforce Development and Community Colleges Natalie Brown briefed the Committee on the Holistic Credit Mobility project aimed at addressing the complexities of credit mobility with Ithaka S+R, in collaboration with Complete College America. (Ref WF-5 on file in the Board Office.)
- DRI Vice President for Research Vic Etyemezian; Associate Research Scientist, Science Communication and Strategic Plan Implementation Lead Meghan Collins; Director of the STEM Education Program Emily McDonald-Williams; and Engineering and Robotics Education Manager AJ Long, reported on DRI's workforce development efforts, including opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students in the NSHE system to work alongside DRI scientists. Additionally, DRI presented information regarding training, curriculum, and supports provided for Nevada's Pre-K 12 teachers through its STEM Education and Nevada Robotics program. (Ref WF-6 on file in the Board Office.)

36. Approved – Workforce Committee Report (Agenda Item 35) – (Continued)

Action items

The Board approved the following recommendation of the Workforce Committee:

- The minutes from the December 4, 2024, meeting. (Ref. WF-2 on file in the Board Office.)
- 37. <u>Approved Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee Report (Agenda Item 36)</u>
 The Board accepted the Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee report and approved the Committee recommendations. (Committee report on file in the Board Office.)

The Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee met on March 6, 2025, and heard the following:

Information items

- Director of Student Affairs Ashley Salisbury presented highlights from the 2023-24 NSHE Financial Aid Report, including data on financial aid programs, recipient attributes, and awards distributed across the System as well as NSHE total financial aid disbursed by category, source, and type. In addition, the presentation included general information on financial aid concepts and the variety of programs available to support students. (Ref. ARSA-11a and ARSA-11b on file in the Board Office.)
- Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Daniel Archer presented information on credit for prior learning (CPL). The presentation included the current state of CPL across the System, the strategy to begin addressing CPL in the next year, and the types of CPL being examined. (Ref. ARSA-12 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 December 4, 2024, meeting. (Ref. ARSA-2a on file in the Board Office.)
- The elimination of the Cannon Survey Center at UNLV. All existing projects have been completed or transferred to other units for completion. All internal campus-wide surveys will be run through the Office of the Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs using existing resources. (Ref. ARSA-2b on file in the Board Office.)

37. Approved – Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee Report (Agenda Item 36) – (Continued)

Action items – (Continued)

- The deactivation of the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Computer Technologies at GBC. The program has had low enrollment for several years. If during the next five years sufficient evidence of market demand or support from industry partners is present, GBC would propose to reactivate the program, likely with an adjusted curriculum emphasis. (Ref. ARSA-2c on file in the Board Office.)
- The deactivation of the Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.S.) in Digital Information Technology at GBC. The program has had low enrollment for several years. If during the next five years sufficient evidence of market demand or support from industry partners is present, GBC would bring the program back for reactivation, likely with an adjusted curriculum emphasis. (Ref. ARSA-2d on file in the Board Office.)
- The elimination of the Associate of Science (A.S.) in Mathematics at TMCC. The program has had low enrollment. Students currently enrolled in the program will remain in the program with no changes to their course load. The department will continue to offer the courses indefinitely. (Ref. ARSA-2e on file in the Board Office.)
- The following nominations for 2025 Regents' Awards: (Ref. ARSA-3 on file in the Board Office.)
 - a. Nevada Regents' Scholar Award (Sam Lieberman Regents' Award for Student Scholarship)

Olufemi Erinoso, UNR – Graduate

Riley Gillis, UNR – Undergraduate

Giovanni Jones, CSN

Dru MacKay, WNC

Sophia Roman, TMCC

Karissa Sena-Fadenrecht, GBC

Nicole Thomas, UNLV – Graduate

Celeste Velasquez, NSU – Undergraduate

Eden Wolde, UNLV – Undergraduate

b. Board of Regents' Outstanding Classified Staff Award

Lisa (Scottie) Lockrem, TMCC

c. Nevada Regents' Creative Activities Award

Andrezej (Andrew) Lenard, CSN (Community College)

Dr. Jennifer Bellor, UNLV (University/DRI)

37. <u>Approved – Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee Report (Agenda Item 36)</u> – (Continued)

<u>Action items</u> – (Continued)

- d. Nevada Regents' Teaching Award
 - Dr. Megan Lahti, TMCC Tenured/Tenure Track (Community College)
 - Dr. Brandon Eddy, UNLV Tenured/Tenured Track (University/DRI)
 - Dr. Melissa Morris, UNLV Non-Tenured (University/DRI)
- e. Nevada Regents' Academic Advisor Award
 - Tara Connolly, TMCC (Community College)
 - Dr. Han-Fen Hu, UNLV (Graduate University/DRI)
 - Malia Mitooka-Ferranto, UNR (Undergraduate University/DRI)
- f. Nevada Regents' Researcher Award
 - Dr. Zhaohuan Zhu, UNLV (Mid-Career)
 - Dr. Vladimir Pravosudov, UNR (Distinguished)
 - Dr. Monica K. Miller, UNR (Humanities and Social Sciences)
- g. <u>Nevada Regents' Rising Researcher Award (Jason Geddes Rising Researcher Award)</u>
 - Dr. Kavita Batra, UNLV
 - Dr. Joanna Blaszczak, UNR
 - Dr. Youngae Choi, NSU
 - Dr. Pengbo Chu, UNR
 - Dr. Thessa Hilgenkamp, UNLV
 - Dr. Li Ke, UNR
 - Dr. André Lindsey, NSU
 - Dr. Jamie L. Palmer-Asemota, NSU
 - Dr. Nicole A. Short, UNLV
 - Dr. Kristin VanderMolen, DRI
- The establishment of the UNLV PRACTICETM Institute of Mental and Behavioral Health (Partnership for Research, Assessment, Counseling, Therapy and Innovative Clinical Education). The UNLV PRACTICETM will strategically unite and coordinate UNLV's mental and behavioral training programs to help solve Nevada's mental health crisis and reach the highest capacity in interprofessional mental health training, service, research, workforce development, and policy. UNLV PRACTICETM is an existing community-facing mental health clinic developed through a partnership between the College of Education and the College of Liberal Arts. This action would formalize the UNLV PRACTICETM as a formal unit. (Ref. ARSA-4 on file in the Board Office.)

37. <u>Approved – Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee Report (Agenda Item 36)</u> – (Continued)

<u>Action items</u> – (Continued)

- A Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Aerospace Engineering at UNR aimed to address the growing demand for aerospace professionals in Nevada, filling a critical gap in workforce development that has arisen due to the diversification of Nevada's economy. Students will learn about materials used to create lightweight structures, propulsion systems that launch vehicles and sustain flight, aerodynamics of aircraft, and control systems that must respond to unpredictable outside forces. The program will leverage the Gillemot Gift to enhance research capabilities, foster industry partnerships, and provide high-quality education. (Ref. ARSA-5 on file in the Board Office.)
- A Master of Science (M.S.) in Aerospace Engineering at UNR. This program focuses on the design and construction of vehicles and devices that travel through the atmosphere and in space and has a major impact on commercial aviation, defense, wind turbine, automotive, medical and other industries. Graduates will be versatile problem solvers who learn to communicate effectively and find creative answers to real-world problems. The program will leverage the Gillemot Gift to enhance research capabilities, foster industry partnerships, and provide high-quality education. (*Ref. ARSA-6 on file in the Board Office.*)
- A Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Aerospace Engineering at UNR. The Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering is designed to serve a diverse student population from both within Nevada and neighboring states. The program will provide an opportunity for Nevada's top students to pursue their studies in a field that is in high demand by industry without having to leave the state. The program will leverage the Gillemot Gift to enhance research capabilities, foster industry partnerships, and provide high-quality education. (Ref. ARSA-7 on file in the Board Office.)
- A Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) at UNR designed to prepare graduates to become licensed physical therapists capable of providing high-quality care in various healthcare settings. The program will emphasize evidence-based practice, clinical reasoning, and patient-centered care. The D.P.T. program focuses on meeting the growing need for physical therapists in Nevada, particularly in rural and underserved areas. (Ref. ARSA-8 on file in the Board Office.)
- A Master of Arts (M.A.) in Strategic Public Relations and Advertising at UNR designed to cater to the needs of working professionals with an asynchronous online mode of study. The program's focus is on emerging approaches in earned and paid media with a focus on developing future leaders of the industry with classes in leadership, law, ethics, and measurement. (Ref. ARSA-9 on file in the Board Office.)

37. <u>Approved – Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee Report (Agenda Item 36)</u> – (Continued)

<u>Action items</u> – (Continued)

- An Associate of Applied Science in CTE Teacher Training for Business & Industry (B&I) Professionals at WNC designed to provide a degree pathway for pre-service or new high school CTE teachers licensed as Business & Industry. The program is developed in collaboration with the Nevada Department of Education, Office of Career Readiness, Adult Learning and Education Options. The purpose of the program is to support CTE teacher development and retention; contribute to quality of teaching; and, ultimately, improve student learning outcomes. (Ref. ARSA-10 on file in the Board Office.)
- 38. <u>Approved Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee Report (Agenda Item 37)</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 March 6, 2025, and heard the following:

<u>Information items</u>

- Committee Chair Susan Brager provided general remarks and opened the floor for Committee members to discuss items regarding audit, compliance and Title IX efforts.
- Chief Internal Auditor Lauren Tripp presented an update on the findings of the Nevada System of Higher Education Single Audit (Uniform Guidance) for the year ended June 30, 2024. Representatives from CSN provided an update related to finding 2024-005, addressing measures that have been taken to further diagnose and remedy the issue. The Committee provided general feedback and direction. (Ref. A-6 on file in the Board Office.)
- Chief Internal Auditor Tripp provided general remarks regarding departmental updates, initiatives, and alignment related to ongoing risk assessments.

Action items

The Board approved the following recommendations of the Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee: (Audit Summary on file in the Board Office.)

38. <u>Approved – Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee Report (Agenda Item 37)</u> – (Continued)

<u>Action items</u> – (Continued)

- The minutes from the December 4, 2025, meeting. (Ref. A-2a on file in the Board Office.)
- Acceptance of the TMCC Special Course and Differential Program Fees follow-up responses to the audit for the period July 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023. (Ref. A-2b on file in the Board Office.)
- The report and institutional responses to the UNR Disability Resource Center audit for the period of July 1, 2022, through March 31, 2024. (Ref. A-4 on file in the Board Office.)
- The report and institutional responses to the NSHE–SCS Purchasing Card Program audit for the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. (Ref. A-5 on file in the Board Office.)
- The Internal Audit Work Plan for the six-month period ending June 30, 2025, and the Internal Audit Department Status Report for the six-month period ended December 31, 2024. (Ref. A-7 on file in the Board Office.)
- 39. <u>Approved Business, Finance and Facilities Committee Report (Agenda Item 38)</u> The Board accepted the Business, Finance and Facilities Committee report and approved the Committee recommendations. (Committee report on file in the Board Office.)

The Business, Finance and Facilities Committee met on March 6, 2025, and heard the following:

Information items

- Second Quarter Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Fiscal Exceptions, Self-Supporting Budgets. Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton presented the Second Quarter Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Report of Fiscal Exceptions of Self-Supporting Accounts. (Ref. BFF-3 on file in the Board Office)
- Second Quarter Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Athletics Financial Report, UNLV, UNR, CSN, and TMCC. Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton presented the Second Quarter Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Athletics Financial Report for UNLV, UNR, CSN, and TMCC. (Ref. BFF-4 and Supplemental Material on file in the Board Office.)
- Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Capital Improvement Fee Report. Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton presented the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Capital Improvement Fee Report. (Refs. BFF-5a, BFF-5b and Supplemental Material on file in the Board Office.)

39. <u>Approved – Business, Finance and Facilities Committee Report (Agenda Item 38)</u> – (Continued)

Information items – (Continued)

- Fiscal Year 2023-2024 General Improvement Fee Report. Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton presented the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 General Improvement Fee Report. (Refs. BFF-6a and BFF-6b on file in the Board Office.)
- Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Activities and Program Fee Report. Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton presented the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Activities and Program Fee Report. (Refs. BFF-7a and BFF-7b on file in the Board Office.)
- Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Gift Funds Report. Chief Financial Officer Chris Viton presented the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Gift Funds Report. (Ref. BFF-8 on file in the Board Office.)
- Mathewson University Gateway Hotel Conference Center Update UNR. UNR President Brian Sandoval presented an update on the Mathewson University Gateway Hotel Conference Center to familiarize the Board of Regents with project details. This item is anticipated to be brought forward as an action item for approval at a future meeting. (Ref. BFF-14 on file in the Board Office.)
- Fieldhouse and Turf Fields Project Update UNR. UNR President Biran Sandoval presented an update on the Fieldhouse and Turf Fields project to familiarize the Board of Regents with the project details. It is anticipated that this item will be brought forward as an action item for approval in spring or summer 2025. (Ref. BFF-15 and Supplemental Material on file in the Board Office.)

Action items

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

- The minutes from the December 4, 2024, meeting. (Ref. BFF-2a on file in the Board Office.)
- 2024 Self-Supporting Summer Session/Calendar Year Budgets, Budget to Actual Comparisons. The Committee recommended acceptance of the 2024 Self-Supporting Summer Session and Calendar Year Budgets, Budgets to Actual Comparison for the NSHE. (Ref. BFF-2b on file in the Board Office.)
- 2025 Self-Supporting Summer Session/Calendar Year Budgets. The Committee recommended approval of the 2025 Self-Supporting Summer Session/Calendar Year Budgets. (Ref. BFF-2c on file in the Board Office.)

39. <u>Approved – Business, Finance and Facilities Committee Report (Agenda Item 38) – (Continued)</u>

<u>Action items</u> – (Continued)

- NSHE Real Property Inventory Report Calendar Year 2024. The Committee recommended acceptance of the NSHE Real Property Inventory Report for Calendar Year 2024. (Ref. BFF-2d on file in the Board Office.)
- Second Quarter Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget Transfers, State Supported or Self-Supporting Operating Budgets. The Committee recommended acceptance of the Second Quarter Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Report of Budget Transfers of State Supported or Self-Supporting Operating Budget Funds between Functions. (Ref. BFF-2e on file in the Board Office.)
- 2015A University Revenue Bond Refunding Resolution. The Committee recommended approval of a Resolution allowing NSHE, on behalf of UNR and UNLV, to issue up to \$44,195,000 of fixed-rate tax exempt universities revenue bonds to refinance the existing 2015A Universities Revenue Bonds for debt service savings subject to established Board of Regents approved debt management guidelines. (Ref. BFF-9 on file in the Board Office.)
- Financing of the UNLV Transit Center Parking Structure Resolution UNLV. The Committee recommended approval of a Resolution authorizing the issuance of NSHE certificates of participation in a maximum principal amount of up to \$62.2 million to support the financing of the new Transit Center Parking Garage. The Resolution also authorizes UNLV to be reimbursed for up to \$2 million of project expenditures incurred before the issuance of the certificates. The Committee also recommended for approval granting the Chancellor the authority to finalize and execute the Non-Exclusive Easement with the Las Vegas Valley Water District, and any other ancillary agreements required to implement the terms of the Non-Exclusive Easement in consultation with the NSHE General Counsel. (Ref. BFF-10 on file in the Board Office.)
- Aloha Pacific Retail Lease Agreement for 900 Square Feet in UNLV Student Services Complex, Building C UNLV. The Committee recommended approval to enter into a long-term lease agreement with Aloha Pacific Federal Credit Union for the lease of 900 rentable square feet in the UNLV Student Services Complex Building C (SSC-C). The Committee also recommended for approval granting the Chancellor the authority to execute the Retail Lease Agreement, any amendments, letter agreements, and any other ancillary agreements required to implement the Retail Lease Agreement. All aforementioned agreements shall be reviewed and approved by NSHE Chief General Counsel (or, at the Chief General

39. <u>Approved – Business, Finance and Facilities Committee Report (Agenda Item 38) – (Continued)</u>

<u>Action items</u> – (Continued)

Counsel's request, NSHE Special Real Property Counsel) in order to implement the terms and conditions required to finalize the Retail Lease Agreement. (Ref. BFF-11 on file in the Board Office.)

- Land Gift to DRI from Boulder City, Nevada DRI. The Committee recommended approval of the revised "Land Conveyance Agreement" that sets the terms and conditions between NSHE and the City of Boulder City, Nevada, for the gift of a 0.65 acre vacant parcel adjoining the DRI Facility in City of Boulder City, Nevada. This Land Conveyance Agreement modifies a previous iteration that was approved at the November 30-December 1, 2023, Board of Regents meeting. (Ref. BFF-12 on file in the Board Office.)
- Purchase of Real Property Located at 1125 Nevada State Drive, Henderson, Nevada and Two Connecting Parking Lots – NSU. The Committee recommended approval to purchase the Dawson Building and connecting parking lots at 1125 Nevada State Drive, Henderson, Nevada, Clark County parcels 179-34-313-002, 179-34-313-004, and 179-34-419-009. (Ref. BFF-13 on file in the Board Office.)
- Lease Amendment at 745 West Moana Lane, Building #935 (M745-935), Reno, Nevada UNR. The Committee recommended approval of the First Amendment to Lease Agreement in the building located at 745 W. Moana Lane #935 (M745-935) in Reno, Nevada. The Committee also recommended for approval granting the Chancellor the authority to execute the First Amendment, any non-material or corrective amendments to the First Amendment, and any other ancillary agreements, documents, or applications that may be required to implement the First Amendment. All such amendments and ancillary documents shall be reviewed and approved by the Chancellor and NSHE Chief General Counsel, or at the NSHE Chief General Counsel's request, NSHE Special Real Property Counsel, to confirm that they are necessary in order to implement the terms and conditions required to finalize the First Amendment, as approved by the Board of Regents. (Ref. BFF-16 on file in the Board Office.)
- Lease Amendment at Nell J. Redfield Building #122 (NJR-122) Suite 100

 UNR. The Committee recommended approval of the Second Amendment to the Lease Agreement in the building located at Nell J. Redfield Building #122 (NJR-122), Suite 100, in Reno, Nevada. The Committee also recommended for approval granting the Chancellor the authority to execute

39. <u>Approved – Business, Finance and Facilities Committee Report (Agenda Item 38)</u> – (Continued)

Action items – (Continued)

the Second Amendment, any non-material or corrective amendments to the Second Amendment, and any other ancillary agreements, documents, or applications that may be required to implement the Second Amendment. All such amendments and ancillary documents shall be reviewed and approved by the Chancellor, and NSHE Chief General Counsel, or, at the NSHE Chief General Counsel's request, NSHE Special Real Property Counsel, to confirm that they are necessary in order to implement the terms and conditions required to finalize the Second Amendment, as approved by the Board of Regents. (Ref. BFF-17 on file in the Board Office.)

- Second Amended Lease Agreement between UNR and the Davidson Academy of Nevada – UNR. The Committee recommended approval of the Second Amended Lease Agreement between UNR and the Davidson Academy of Nevada. The Committee also recommended for approval granting the Chancellor the authority to execute the Second Amended Lease Agreement, any non-material or corrective amendments to the Second Amended Lease Agreement, and any other ancillary agreements, documents, or applications that may be required to implement the Second Amended Lease Agreement. All such amendments and ancillary documents shall be reviewed and approved by the Chancellor, and NSHE Chief General Counsel, or, at the NSHE Chief General Counsel's request, NSHE Special Real Property Counsel, to confirm that they are necessary in order to implement the terms and conditions required to finalize the Second Amended Lease Agreement, as approved by the Board of Regents. (Ref. BFF-18 on file in the Board Office.)
- 40. <u>Approved Security Committee Report (Agenda Item 39)</u> The Board accepted the Security Committee report and approved the Committee recommendations. (Committee report on file in the Board Office.)

The Security Committee met on March 6, 2025, and heard the following:

Information items

• Chair's Report. Committee Chair Arrascada reviewed the charge of the Security Committee and will address those duties throughout the calendar year.

40. Approved – Security Committee Report (Agenda Item 39) – (Continued)

<u>Information items</u> – (Continued)

- NSHE Southern Command. Arnold Vasquez, Chief of University Police Services, Southern Command, presented the Southern Command's 2024 Annual Activity Report related to public safety activities including grants, hiring and recruiting, events, activities, police academy operations, and personnel matters. In addition, Chief Vasquez presented the 2024 Annual Security Report outlining crime statistics that have occurred at NSHE campuses served by Southern Command, pursuant to the Jeanne Clery Crime Statistics Act (20 USC 1092). (Refs. SEC-4a and SEC-4b on file in the Board Office.)
- NSHE Northern Command. Eric James, Chief of Police, Northern Command, spoke of security updates at the northern institutions. Chief James presented the Northern Command's 2024 Annual Activity Report related to department initiatives, the campus security officer program, organizational resilience and internal department highlights. In addition, Chief James presented the 2024 Annual Security Report outlining crime statistics that have occurred at NSHE campuses, with the exception of DRI, served by Northern Command, pursuant to the Jeanne Clery Crime Statistics Act (20 USC 1092). (Ref. SEC-5a, SEC-5b, SEC-5c on file in the Board Office.)
- NSHE Cybersecurity. Thomas Dobbert, Chief Information Security Officer, System Computing Services, presented an update on NSHE cybersecurity, including current industry trends, NSHE-specific challenges, and preventative measures and opportunities. (Ref. SEC-6 on file in the Board Office.)

Action items

The Board approved the following recommendations of the Security Committee:

- The minutes from the September 5, 2024, meeting. (Ref. SEC-2 on file in the Board Office.)
- A revision to Board policy (*Title 4, Chapter 1, new Section 13*) establishing a Public Safety Council to review, evaluate, and make recommendations to the Chancellor to address the safety and security of all NSHE institutions. (*Ref. SEC-7 on file in the Board Office.*)

In response to a request for direction related to the UNLV fiscal year budget discrepancies, Interim Chancellor Charlton clarified whether the motion would include amending or validating UNLV's budget actuals in the Fiscal Exception Report.

Special Counsel Nielsen stated one option would be a motion to approve all the Committee Reports, except Business, Finance and Facilities, which will be considered separately.

Vice Chair Downs moved to accept the Committee Reports and approval of the Committee recommendations (Agenda Item 33, ad hoc TMCC President Search Committee; Agenda Item 34, Health Sciences System Committee; Agenda Item 35, Workforce Committee; Agenda Item 36, Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee; Agenda Item 37, Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee; and Agenda Item 39, Security Committee), except Agenda Item 38, Business, Finance and Facilities, which will be considered separately. Regent Bautista seconded.

Interim Chancellor Charlton clarified that the Business, Finance and Facilities item was for information only so does not appear for action. They will certainly work through the process with the institution to validate the report.

Vice Chair Downs and Regent Bautista withdrew their motion and second.

Vice Chair Downs moved to accept the Committee Reports and approval of the Committee recommendations (Agenda Item 33, ad hoc TMCC President Search Committee; Agenda Item 34, Health Sciences System Committee; Agenda Item 35, Workforce Committee; Agenda Item 36, Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee; Agenda Item 37, Audit, Compliance and Title IX Committee; Agenda Item 38, Business, Finance and Facilities; and Agenda Item 39, Security Committee) listed in the minutes as 34-40. Regent Bautista seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

41. New Business

Vice Chair Downs requested that NSHE begin looking to the 321,000 people in the state of Nevada who have some college education but no degree and find a way to appeal to them to finish their education with one of the NSHE institutions.

Chair Carvalho thanked NSU President Pollard, her team, students, and all campus partners for their hospitality.

42. Information Only – Public Comment

The following individual provided written public comment concerned with removing NSU DEI programs and urging the Board to work alongside the NSU community to protect and uphold the DEI mission, initiatives, and programs that have defined the institution:

• Dina Gonzalez (Ref. Gonzalez.Dina03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individuals provided written and in-person public comment voicing concerns with the current CSN Collective Bargaining Agreement negotiations:

- Ted Chodock
- Colleen Harrington (Ref. Harrington. Colleen 03.25 on file in the Board Office.)
- Staci Walters
- Nayelee Vallanueva

The following individual provided written public comment expressing gratitude to TMCC for fostering the principles of inclusivity, diversity, and equality:

• Lisha Allison (Ref. Allison.Lisha03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

The following individual provided written public comment urging the Board to stand up for students who may need extra support and a space to belong:

• James Aguirre (Ref. Aguirre. James 03.25 on file in the Board Office.)

Bill Robinson provided in-person public comment related to faculty anxiety and the wasted work hours because of it.

Jim New provided in-person public comment thanking the Board for their vote for NSU Collective Bargaining and thanked Regent Brooks and Regent Goodman for calling attention to the antiquated language in Title 4, Chapter 4, the policy governing collective bargaining for faculty.

Kent Ervin provided in-person public comment agreeing with Regent Brooks that Title 4, Chapter 4, the policy governing collective bargaining for faculty, needs to be revised.

Allister Dias provided in-person public comment thanking the Board for its hard work and for always supporting students.

42. <u>Information Only – Public Comment</u>

Teresa Marie provided in-person public comment thanking the Board for its time and for listening over the past two years. Graduate students are experiencing the defunding of the research by federal government decisions. She urged Board members to talk to graduate students that suffer from mental health concerns.

Kevin Osario-Hernandez provided in-person public comment filled with gratitude and honor in representing over 100,000 students and was deeply appreciative of the conversations, the challenges, and shared efforts to improve higher education. Whether they agree or debate, he has always respected the Board's commitment to students. His time has reinforced his belief that when people show up and speak up, they can create meaningful change. He steps away with confidence that, with the next generation of student leaders, the Board will continue to listen to them. He thanked the Board for its leadership, and the opportunity for him to serve has been a privilege.

The meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Prepared by: Angela R. Palmer

Special Assistant and Coordinator

to the Board of Regents

Submitted for approval by: Keri D. Nikolajewski

Chief of Staff to the Board of Regents