

**BOARD OF REGENTS and its  
ACADEMIC, RESEARCH AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

College of Southern Nevada  
Student Union, Rooms U126-130  
6375 W. Charleston Boulevard, Las Vegas  
Thursday, March 5, 2026, 9:00 a.m.

Video or Telephone 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

A video conference connection will be made from the meeting site to the Reno System Administration Building, Conference Room, at 2601 Enterprise Road, Reno, Nevada, and Great Basin College, Berg Hall Conference Room, at 1500 College Parkway, Elko, Nevada. In the event the video conference connection is not functioning, a teleconference connection will be made available.

Members of the public may attend the meeting and provide public comment or testimony at these sites. Public comment may also be offered via telephone by calling (669) 444-9171 and entering Meeting ID 992 8475 3091 and Passcode 555 555 or by completing and submitting the online public comment form (<https://nshe.nevada.edu/regents/public-comment/>). Written comments will no longer be read into the record but will be included in the permanent meeting record.

Members of the public wishing to view the meeting may do so via live stream (<http://nshe.nevada.edu/live/>)

**BOARD**

**ROLL CALL:**

Mr. Byron Brooks, Chair \_\_\_\_\_  
Ms. Stephanie Goodman, Vice Chair \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Joseph C. Arrascada \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Aaron Bautista \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Patrick J. Boylan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs. Susan Brager \_\_\_\_\_  
Ms. Heather Brown \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs. Amy J. Carvalho \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs. Carol Del Carlo \_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Jeffrey S. Downs \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carlos D. Fernandez \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pete Goicoechea \_\_\_\_\_  
Ms. Jennifer J. McGrath \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMITTEE**

**ROLL CALL:**

Mr. Joseph C. Arrascada, Chair \_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Jeffrey S. Downs, Vice Chair \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Aaron Bautista \_\_\_\_\_  
Ms. Heather Brown \_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs. Carol Del Carlo \_\_\_\_\_

In addition to the Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee, this meeting is noticed as a meeting of the Board of Regents to allow other Regents who may wish to attend to participate.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE AGENDA AND PUBLIC MEETING**

**NOTE:** Below is an agenda of all items scheduled to be considered. Notification is hereby provided that items on the agenda may be taken out of the order presented, including moving an item to a different day if the meeting is noticed for more than one day, two or more agenda items may be combined for consideration, and an agenda item may be removed from the agenda or discussion relating to an item on the agenda may be delayed at any time.

In accordance with the Bylaws of the Board of Regents, Title 1, Article V, Section 18, items voted on may be the subject of a motion to reconsider at this meeting. A motion to reconsider an item may be made at any time before adjournment of this meeting. Similarly, if an item is tabled at any time during the meeting, it may, by proper motion and vote, be taken from the table and thereafter be the subject of consideration and action at any time before adjournment of this meeting.

The Board of Regents, at its regularly scheduled meetings, meets concurrently with its Academic, Research and Student Affairs and Business, Finance and Facilities committees. The Board's committee meetings take place in accordance with the agendas published for those committees. Regents who are not members of the committee may attend the committee meeting and participate in the discussion of committee agenda items. However, action items will only be voted on by the members of each committee, unless a Regent is temporarily made a member of that committee under the Bylaws of the Board of Regents, Title 1, Article VI, Section 6. The full Board of Regents will consider committee action items in accordance with the Board of Regents agenda published for the current or a subsequent meeting.

In accordance with the Bylaws of the Board of Regents, Title 1, Article V, Section 12, a quorum may be gained by telephonic, video, or electronic transmission provided that notice to that effect has been given.

Some agenda items are noted as having accompanying reference material. Reference material may be accessed on the electronic version of the agenda by clicking the reference link associated with a particular item. The agenda and associated reference material may also be accessed on the Internet by visiting the Board of Regents website at: <https://nshe.nevada.edu/regents/upcoming-meetings/>

Many public libraries have publicly accessible computer terminals. Copies of the reference material and any additional support materials that are submitted to the Board of Regents Office and then distributed to the members of the Board of Regents after the posting of this agenda but before the meeting, will be made available as follows: 1. Copies of any such materials are available at the Board of Regents Offices at 2601 Enterprise Road, Reno, Nevada, and 4300 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada. A copy may be requested by calling Winter Lipson at (702) 889-8426; 2. Copies of any such materials will also be available at the meeting site.

Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate physically disabled persons attending the meeting. Please call the Board office at (702) 889-8426 in advance so that arrangements may be made.

**CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*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.*

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**INFORMATION ONLY**

Public comment will be taken during this agenda item. No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item until the matter is included on an agenda as an item on which action may be taken. Comments will be limited to two (2) minutes per person. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name. The Committee Chair may elect to allow additional public comment on a specific agenda item when that agenda item is being considered.

In accordance with Attorney General Opinion No. 00-047, as restated in the Attorney General’s Open Meeting Law Manual, the Committee Chair may prohibit comment if the content of that comment is a topic that is not relevant to, or within the authority of, the Board of Regents, or if the content is willfully disruptive of the meeting by being irrelevant, repetitious, slanderous, offensive, inflammatory, irrational or amounting to personal attacks or interfering with the rights of other speakers.

**2. CONSENT ITEMS**

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

Consent items will be considered together and acted on in one motion unless an item is removed to be considered separately by the Committee.

**2a. MINUTES**

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

The Committee will consider approval of the December 4, 2025, meeting minutes. ([Ref. ARSA-2a](#))

**2b. PROGRAM ELIMINATION,  
A.A.S CONSTRUCTION  
TECHNOLOGY, CRAFT TRAINING:  
CARPENTRY EMPHASIS, WNC**

**FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

WNC will request approval of the elimination of the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S) in Construction Technology, Craft Training: Carpentry emphasis due to no enrollment. ([Ref. ARSA-2b](#))

**2. CONSENT ITEMS – (Continued)**

**2c. PROGRAM ELIMINATION, FOR POSSIBLE ACTION  
A.A.S. CONSTRUCTION  
TECHNOLOGY, CRAFT TRAINING:  
ELECTRICAL EMPHASIS, WNC**

WNC will request approval of the elimination of the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Construction Technology, Craft Training: Electrical emphasis due to no enrollment. ([Ref. ARSA-2c](#))

**2d. PROGRAM ELIMINATION, FOR POSSIBLE ACTION  
A.A.S. CONSTRUCTION  
TECHNOLOGY, CRAFT TRAINING:  
PLUMBING EMPHASIS, WNC**

WNC will request approval of the elimination of the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Construction Technology, Craft Training: Plumbing emphasis due to no enrollment. ([Ref. ARSA-2d](#))

*ESTIMATED TIME: 5 mins.*

**3. 2026 REGENTS' AWARDS FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

Pursuant to Board policy ([Title 4, Chapter 1, Sections 16-20 and 39](#)), the Committee will consider approval of the following nominations for 2026 Regents' Awards. ([Ref. ARSA-3](#))

a. Nevada Regents' Scholar Award (Sam Lieberman Regents' Award for Student Scholarship)

Yan Arnaiz, UNLV – Undergraduate  
Alyssa Ayers, WNC  
Richard Chang, UNLV – Graduate  
Elena Chau, UNR – Undergraduate  
Triniti Grance, NSU  
Joseph Warren Ogden, CSN  
Kaycee Shulz, GBC  
Wendy Solorio Ramirez, TMCC  
Lauren Whitenack, UNR - Graduate

b. Nevada Regents' Outstanding Classified Staff Award  
Melinda Caskey, GBC

**3. 2026 REGENTS' AWARDS – (Continued)**

- c. Nevada Regents' Creative Activities Award  
Dr. John Patrick Rice, GBC (Community College)  
Dr. Javon Johnson, UNLV (University/DRI)
  
- d. Nevada Regents' Teaching Award  
Angela Spires, CSN – Tenured/Tenure Track (Community College)  
Dr. MaryKay Orgill, UNLV – Tenured/Tenure Track  
(University/DRI)  
Kelly Keselica, UNR – Non-Tenured (University/DRI)
  
- e. Nevada Regents' Academic Advisor Award  
Denesha Moore, CSN (Community College)  
Monica Moreno, UNLV (Undergraduate - University/DRI)  
Dr. Jenny Ouyang, UNR (Graduate – University/DRI)
  
- f. Nevada Regents' Researcher Award  
Dr. Arya Udry, UNLV (Mid-Career)  
Dr. Andrey Khlystov, DRI (Distinguished)  
Dr. Valerie Fridland, UNR (Humanities and Social Sciences)
  
- g. Nevada Regents' Rising Researcher Award (Jason Geddes Rising Researcher Award)  
Dr. Scott Allen, UNR  
Dr. Nathan Chellman, DRI  
Dr. Kara Christensen Pacella, UNLV  
Dr. Samantha John, UNLV  
Dr. Holly Martin, NSU  
Dr. Sandhya Narayanan, UNR  
Dr. Katrina Nicholas, NSU  
Dr. Elnaz Seylabi, UNR  
Dr. Shengjie Zhai, UNLV

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Each recipient of the Regents' Creative Activities Award, Teaching Award, Academic Advisor Award, and Researcher Award (Distinguished and Mid-Career) receives a stipend of \$5,000. Each recipient of the Regents' Rising Researcher Award receives a stipend of \$2,000. The Regents' Outstanding Classified Staff Award recipient receives a stipend of \$3,000. Pursuant to the Procedures and Guidelines Manual, Chapter 8, Section 2, Subsection 8a, the institution employing the recipient for each respective award is responsible for the cost of the stipend. Each recipient of the Regents' Scholar Award receives a stipend of \$5,000. Pursuant to the Procedures and Guidelines Manual, Chapter 8, Section 2, Subsection 8b, the Regents' Scholar Award is funded 100 percent by System Administration (Regents' Account).

**ESTIMATED TIME:** 10 mins.

**4. PROGRAM ELIMINATIONS, WNC FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

**4a. A.A.S ACCOUNTING, WNC FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

WNC will request approval of the elimination of the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Accounting, as most accounting and finance positions require a baccalaureate degree or higher for certification and advancement. Current students will receive an individualized completion plan through advising. ([Ref. ARSA-4a](#))

**4b. A.A.S. GENERAL BUSINESS, WNC FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

WNC will request approval of the elimination of the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in General Business, as most entry-level business roles require a baccalaureate degree. Current students will receive an individualized completion plan through advising. ([Ref. ARSA-4b](#))

**4c. A.A.S. MANAGEMENT, WNC FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

WNC will request approval of the elimination of the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Management, as most management and supervisory roles require a baccalaureate degree. Current students will receive an individualized completion plan through advising. ([Ref. ARSA-4c](#))

*ESTIMATED TIME: 5 mins.*

**5. ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT PROPOSALS, UNLV FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

**5a. NEVADA GENERAL CURRICULUM ACCESS CENTER, UNLV FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

UNLV will request approval to establish the Nevada General Curriculum Access Center (NVGC Access) within the Department of Early Childhood, Multilingual, and Special Education in the College of Education. The purpose of the NVGC Access Center is to support Nevada's educators who serve students with extensive support needs to create access to the general curriculum across K-12 to adulthood. The work will impact the state's coursework and classrooms in Intellectual Disability and other Developmental Disabilities. ([Ref. ARSA-5a](#))

**5. ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT PROPOSALS, UNLV - FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**  
(Continued)

**5b. NEVADA INSTITUTE OF CYBERSECURITY, UNLV FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

UNLV will request approval for the creation of the Nevada Institute of Cybersecurity (NIC), a consolidation of the University's academic research, educational programs, community outreach and workforce development activities focused on cybersecurity. The NIC will provide for academic and private company partnerships, creating the potential for increased private and local funding. This interdisciplinary institute will provide assistance to policymakers, helping them to understand the potential economic impact of cybersecurity risks to Nevada businesses and residents. ([Ref. ARSA-5b](#))

*ESTIMATED TIME: 10 mins.*

**6. ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT PROPOSAL, NEVADA FOREST AND WOODLAND RESTORATION INSTITUTE, UNR FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

UNR will request approval to establish the Nevada Forest and Woodland Restoration Institute focused on the restoration of forests and woodlands in Nevada to reduce fire risk and improve ecological resilience. The Institute seeks to lead and inform adaptive ecosystem management for the restoration and conservation of dryland forests and woodlands in Nevada and beyond through cross-sector collaborative efforts to mitigate wildfire severity and improve ecosystem health. ([Ref. ARSA-6](#))

*ESTIMATED TIME: 5 mins.*

**7. PROGRAM PROPOSAL, A.A.S. CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT, TMCC FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

TMCC will request approval of an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Construction Management providing students with basic, entry-level skills and understanding of the construction industry as it relates to residential, commercial, and heavy construction markets. The successful student upon completion of this two-year program will possess the necessary knowledge to enter the construction management field. ([Ref. ARSA-7](#))

*ESTIMATED TIME: 5 mins.*

**8. PROGRAM ELIMINATION AND PROPOSAL, WNC** **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

**8a. PROGRAM ELIMINATION, A.A.S. MECHATRONICS AND ELECTRONICS, WNC** **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

WNC will request approval of the elimination of the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Mechatronics and Electronics, as it will become an emphasis under the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Technology which will better reflect industry needs. Students under the current program will be moved into the new degree under the Mechatronics and Electronics emphasis. ([Ref. ARSA-8a](#))

**8b. PROGRAM PROPOSAL, A.A.S. TECHNOLOGY, EMPHASIS MECHATRONICS AND ELECTRONICS, WNC** **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

WNC will request approval of an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Technology, Mechatronics and Electronics emphasis. This will replace the stand-alone Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Mechatronics and Electronics that is being eliminated. This new degree will align with other emphases of the A.A.S. Technology and will have two avenues of entry through stackable credentials, motivating students to continue their education to complete their degree. ([Ref. ARSA-8b](#))

*ESTIMATED TIME: 5 mins.*

**9. HANDBOOK REVISION, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY** **INFORMATION ONLY**

Staff will present for information and discussion proposed revisions to Board policy (*Title 4, Chapter 12, Sections 2 and 8*) delineating the distribution of Net Income received from Intellectual Property, updating the division of such between the inventor, academic department or unit, institution, and the institutional Proof of Concept Fund. The Committee may provide feedback and direction on the proposed revisions. ([Ref. ARSA-9](#))

*ESTIMATED TIME: 10 mins.*

**10. HANDBOOK REVISION, NSHE POLICY ON INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

Director of Policy Terina Caserto will present for approval a revision to Board policy (*Title 4, Chapter 14, Section 29*) concerning Instructional Materials. During the 2025 Session, the Nevada State Legislature passed Assembly Bill 345 which requires NSHE to create a definition of no-cost Open Educational Resources (OER) and low-cost course materials. The proposed revision will fulfill that mandate. ([Ref. ARSA-10](#))

*ESTIMATED TIME: 10 mins.*

**11. TIME-TO-DEGREE INNOVATION IN BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS INFORMATION ONLY**

Staff will present information on reduced credit baccalaureate programs, the innovation and characteristics of such programs, and the national landscape through the lens of accreditors, systems, and institutions. Additionally, Weber State University Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Accreditation Gail Niklason will present information on Weber State's 90-credit baccalaureate strategies, challenges, and perspectives. ([Ref. ARSA-11](#))

*ESTIMATED TIME: 15 mins.*

**12. SYSTEMWIDE GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS INFORMATION ONLY**

Staff will provide an overview of challenges and opportunities associated with NSHE's general education approach, including transfer alignment, course applicability, and student progression. In addition, the presentation will highlight approaches used in other states. ([Ref. ARSA-12](#))

*ESTIMATED TIME: 15mins.*

**13. EXPERIMENTAL MATH PROGRAM PROPOSAL, CSN** **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

As provided in the Board of Regents *Handbook*, [Title 4, Chapter 16, Section 1](#), CSN Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs James McCoy will request approval of a temporary exemption from the co-requisite program to offer an experimental math program. CSN Professor of Mathematics Alok Pandey will present information on the proposed parachute course including implementation details and timeline, overview of curriculum, evaluation methods, and institutional investment. ([Refs. ARSA-13a and ARSA-13b](#))

*ESTIMATED TIME: 15 mins.*

**14. PROPOSED COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE, UNR** **INFORMATION ONLY**

UNR Executive Vice President and Provost Jeffrey Thompson will present preliminary information on a proposed College of Veterinary Medicine. The presentation will include high-level information on a feasibility study, research, collaborative efforts, planning status, conceptual timeline, and next steps. ([Ref. ARSA-14](#))

*ESTIMATED TIME: 10 mins.*

**15. NEW BUSINESS** **INFORMATION ONLY**

Items for consideration at future meetings may be suggested. Any discussion of an item under “New Business” is limited to description and clarification of the subject matter of the item, which may include the reasons for the request, and no substantive discussion may occur at this meeting on new business items in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law (NRS 241.010 and NRS 241.020(3)(d) *et seq.*).

*ESTIMATED TIME: 5 mins.*

**16. PUBLIC COMMENT** **INFORMATION ONLY**

Public comment will be taken during this agenda item. No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item until the matter is included on an agenda as an item on which action may be taken. Comments will be limited to two (2) minutes per person. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name. The Committee Chair may elect to allow additional public comment on a specific agenda item when that agenda item is being considered.

**16. PUBLIC COMMENT – (Continued)**

**INFORMATION ONLY**

In accordance with Attorney General Opinion No. 00-047, as restated in the Attorney General’s Open Meeting Law Manual, the Committee Chair may prohibit comment if the content of that comment is a topic that is not relevant to, or within the authority of, the Board of Regents, or if the content is willfully disruptive of the meeting by being irrelevant, repetitious, slanderous, offensive, inflammatory, irrational or amounting to personal attacks or interfering with the rights of other speakers.

POSTED ON THE NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION WEBSITE (<https://nshe.nevada.edu/>) AND ON THE NEVADA PUBLIC NOTICE WEBSITE PURSUANT TO NRS 232.2175 (<https://notice.nv.gov/>) AT THE SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION BUILDINGS AND E-MAILED FOR POSTING AT THE EIGHT NSHE INSTITUTIONS:

CSN, Building D, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 6375 W. Charleston Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89146  
DRI, Maxey Building, 2215 Raggio Parkway, Reno, NV 89512  
DRI, Southern Nevada Science Center, 755 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89119  
GBC, Berg Hall, 1500 College Parkway, Elko, NV 89801  
NSU, Rogers Student Center, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 1300 Nevada State Drive, Henderson, NV 89002  
TMCC, Red Mountain Building (RDMT 200), 7000 Dandini Boulevard, Reno, NV 89512  
UNLV, Flora Dungan Humanities Building (FDH), 4505 Maryland Pkwy, Las Vegas, NV 89154  
UNR, Clark Administration, University of Nevada, Reno, Reno, NV 89557  
WNC, Bristlecone Building Lobby, 2201 W. College Parkway, Carson City, NV 89703  
System Administration, 4300 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89119  
System Administration, 2601 Enterprise Road, Reno, NV 89512