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 its September 2026 meeting.

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

University of Nevada, Reno
Joe Crowley Student Union, Ballroom A
87 West Stadium Way, Reno
Thursday, June 11, 2026

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

Members Present:	Mr. Joseph C. Arrascada, Chair Dr. Jeffrey S. Downs, Vice Chair Mr. Aaron Bautista Ms. Heather Brown Mrs. Carol Del Carlo
Other Regents Present:	Mr. Patrick J. Boylan Ms. Jennifer J. McGrath
Others Present:	Mr. Matt McNair, Chancellor Ms. Renée Davis, Acting Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Mr. Chris Nielsen, Special Counsel to the Board of Regents Dr. Stacy S. Klippenstein, President, CSN Dr. Kumud Acharya, President, DRI Dr. Chris Heavey, Interim President, UNLV Mr. Brian Sandoval, President, UNR

Faculty senate chairs in attendance: Tracy Sherman, CSN; and Dr. Jennifer McClendon, UNR.

Chair Joseph C. Arrascada called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. with all members present and provided the Land Acknowledgement.

1. Information Only-Public Comment – The following individuals offered in-person or written *(on file in the Board Office)* public comment in support of the proposed School of Veterinary Medicine at UNR *(Agenda Item 8)*: Dr. Bill Payne, Dr. Mike Teglas, Dr. Ben Weigler, Dr. Walt Mandeville, Dr. Euan Allan, Dr. Camila Dores, Dr. Hannah Rodriguez, Dr. Isadora Batalha, Dr. Amilton de Mello, Dr. Luis Shutz, Dr. Kelley Steury, Dr. Jennifer

1. Information Only-Public Comment – *(continued)*

McClendon, Senator Catherine Cortez Masto, and Martin Paris on behalf of the Nevada Cattlemen's Association.

Dr. Jennifer McClendon and Sarah La France spoke in support of the Intellectual Property policy revisions *(Agenda Item 9)*.

The following individuals provided written public comment in support of the proposed Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology at UNLV *(Agenda Item 5)*: Courtney Haight, Assemblymember Erica V. Mosca, and S. Kathleen Krach.

The following organizations provided a joint letter of support for the proposed B.S. in Children's Behavioral Health Psychology at UNLV and ongoing implementation of SB 165, as well as the proposed Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology at UNLV *(Agenda Items 3 and 5):* Children's Advocacy Alliance, Avery Burton Foundation, Best Practices Nevada LLC, Act4Kids Nevada, Communities in Schools of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services, United Way of Southern Nevada, Foster Kinship, Clark County Black Caucus, United Citizens Foundation DBA Miracle Minds Therapy, Boys Town Nevada, Clark County Children's Mental Health Consortium, and Americorp/ City Hall of Las Vegas.

Alexis Marin, representing Children's Advocacy Alliance, provided telephone public comment in support of the proposed B.S. in Children's Behavioral Health Psychology and Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology at UNLV *(Agenda Items 3 and 5)*.

2. Approved-Consent Items – The Committee recommended approval of the consent items.

2a. Approved-Minutes – The Committee recommended approval of the March 5, 2026, meeting minutes. *(Ref. ARSA-2a on file in the Board Office)*

2b. Approved-Program Elimination, A.A.S. Cardiorespiratory Sciences, CSN – The Committee recommended approval of the elimination of the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S) in Cardiorespiratory Sciences at CSN due to the industry no longer requiring certification and no enrollment *(Ref. ARSA-2b on file in the Board Office)*.

2c. Approved-Program Elimination, A.A.S. Food and Beverage Management, CSN – The Committee recommended approval of the elimination of the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Food and Beverage Management at CSN as a college degree is no longer required for a management position *(Ref. ARSA-2c on file in the Board Office)*.

2d. Approved-Program Elimination, B.A.S Food Service Operations, CSN – The Committee recommended approval of the elimination of the Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.S.) in Food Service Operations at CSN as a college degree is no longer required for a management position *(Ref. ARSA-2d on file in the Board Office)*.

2. Approved-Consent Items – *(continued)*

2e. Approved-Program Elimination, A.A.S Real Estate, CSN – The Committee recommended approval of the elimination of the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Real Estate at CSN due to low interest in the program. Additionally, the institution is unable to retain a qualified faculty member to maintain eligibility for inclusion in the Nevada Real Estate providers list. as a college degree is no longer required for a management position *(Ref. ARSA-2d on file in the Board Office)*.

Regent Brown moved approval of the consent items. Vice Chair Downs seconded. Motion carried.

3. Approved-Program Proposal, B.S. Children's Behavioral Health Psychology, UNLV – The Committee recommended approval of a Bachelor of Science in Children's Behavioral Health Psychology designed to provide a broad and balanced treatment of knowledge, skills, professional dispositions, and cultural competencies necessary to promote well-being and prevent and intervene to support the behavioral health of preschool through grade 12 children. In particular, the program focuses on addictions and neurodevelopmental assessment of youth exposed to substances *(Ref. ARSA-3 on file in the Board Office)*.

University of Nevada, Las Vegas Interim President Chris Heavey provided a brief overview of the proposal.

Regent Del Carlo commended UNLV for recognizing the significant need for children's mental health professionals in Nevada and for developing the proposed program to help address the shortage. She also expressed appreciation for the collaboration within institutions, noting that Nevada cannot graduate enough professionals in the field and that the program is an important first step toward improving children's mental health services statewide.

Chair Arrascada asked about the program's curriculum, specifically the emphasis on addiction, substance exposure, and neurodevelopmental impacts. Dr. Michelle Paul, Assistant Vice President of Mental and Behavioral Health, UNLV, explained that students will receive training in substance use disorders, prenatal substance exposure, adverse childhood experiences, assessment, and intervention strategies.

Chair Arrascada also inquired about the projected first-year enrollment of 100 students. Interim President Heavey responded that the estimate was conservative and expected to be exceeded due to anticipated interest from current psychology majors.

Regent Brown shared that she visited the clinic and witnessed the impact its services have on children and families. She expressed enthusiasm for the program's ability to expand services and thanked the presenters for their work and informative responses.

3. Approved-Program Proposal, B.S. Children's Behavioral Health Psychology, UNLV – *(continued)*

Regent Brown moved approval of a Bachelor of Science in Children's Behavioral Health Psychology at UNLV. Regent Bautista seconded. Motion carried.

4. Approved-Program Proposal, B.S. Sport Hospitality Management, UNLV – The Committee recommended approval of a Bachelor of Science in Sport Hospitality Management combining the knowledge and skills from the sport, entertainment, and hospitality management perspectives. The program will allow students to manage sport organizations, events, and services within this industry *(Ref. ARSA-4 on file in the Board Office)*.

UNLV Senior Vice Provost Kate Korgan explained that the proposed degree was developed to meet Nevada's growing workforce needs in the sports and hospitality industries. She highlighted the program's emphasis on student's success through high-impact educational practices, internships, flexible classroom options, transfer pathways, and credit for prior learning. She also reported strong student interest, noting that students surveyed indicated they would apply or transfer into the program.

Regent Brown shared that southern Nevada has quickly become the sports capital of the world and that enrollment would exceed projections because of student interest. She asked whether the degree had been developed in response to industry demand. Interim President Heavey explained that the proposal resulted from both student interest and requests from community and industry partners, including support from MGM and other employers seeking graduates with expertise in sports hospitality.

Regent Del Carlo commended UNLV for bringing forward a bold, timely, and strategic degree aligned with workforce needs and the University's strategic plan. Chair Arrascada complimented the proposal's interdisciplinary approach, noting that the collaboration among multiple colleges and campus units strengthened the program and reflected thoughtful planning.

Regent Del Carlo moved approval of a Bachelor of Science in Sport Hospitality Management at UNLV. Regent Brown seconded. Motion carried.

5. Approved-Program Proposal, Psy.D. Clinical Psychology, UNLV – The Committee recommended approval of a Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D) in Clinical Psychology to prepare individuals for competent and ethical generalist practice as clinical psychologists. The program supports Nevada's strategic priorities to grow its health workforce and respond to the opioid crisis. Nevada funded the development of the program's structure and curriculum through the Department of Justice Settlement Agreement. The program is constructed to meet accreditation standards set by the American Psychological Association *(Ref. ARSA-5b on file in the Board Office)*.

Interim President Chris Heavey provided a brief overview of the proposal.

5. Approved-Program Proposal, Psy.D. Clinical Psychology, UNLV – *(continued)*

Chair Arrascada observed that the proposed program would require a differential fee due to its cost, but emphasized it would provide significant benefits to Clark County and the State of Nevada by helping address critical mental health workforce shortages. Interim President Heavey explained that the program is supported by opioid settlement funding, state-supported faculty positions, and renovated space at the Shadow Lane campus within the Las Vegas Medical District.

Chair Arrascada asked when the first cohort would graduate. UNLV Program Director Erica Hannah stated a cohort is anticipated to begin in Fall 2027; graduate in 2032, following a required fifth year paid internship; and pursue licensure shortly thereafter.

Vice Chair Downs moved approval of a Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology at UNLV. Regent Del Carlo seconded. Motion carried.

6. Approved-Program Proposal A.S. Cybersecurity, CSN – The Committee recommended approval of an Associate of Science (A.S.) in Cybersecurity preparing students for immediate entry into the cybersecurity workforce. The program also prepares students for transfer into bachelor's programs at UNLV and UNR. Students will be trained in the knowledge of computers, networks, and risk and security management to meet the needs of the local, state, regional and national workforce *(Ref. ARSA-6 on file in the Board Office)*.

CSN Executive Vice President James McCoy provided a brief overview of the proposal.

Regent Del Carlo praised the proposal as an excellent example of Systemwide collaboration, commending CSN and UNLV for designing a fully transferable degree that advances NSHE's goal of seamless credit transfer between institutions. She expressed her full support for the program and noted the growing need for cybersecurity education and workforce training.

Vice Chair Downs also appreciated the collaboration between CSN and UNLV, stating that the transfer pathway would allow students to continue their education without duplicating coursework or losing credits.

Regent Brown asked about opportunities for credit for prior learning, particularly for military service members with cybersecurity experience and industry credentials. Dr. McCoy explained that the program recognizes applicable industry certifications, regardless of where they were earned, allowing qualified students to receive credit and accelerate degree completion.

Chair Arrascada commented on the affordability of the program and asked whether enrollment projections aligned with anticipated demand for UNLV's bachelor's degree. Dr. McCoy responded that the projections were conservative and he is confident enrollment would exceed expectations, citing the success of previous CSN-UNLV transfer pathways.

6. Approved-Program Proposal A.S. Cybersecurity, CSN – *(continued)*

Regent Brown moved approval of an Associate of Science in Cybersecurity at CSN. Regent Bautista seconded. Motion carried.

7. Approved-Program Proposal, B.S. Animal Science, UNR – The Committee recommended approval of a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Animal Science preparing students for careers in livestock production, food manufacturing, and related fields. The program covers animal husbandry, genetics, reproduction, meat processing, and behavior, equipping graduates with critical thinking skills and a solid understanding of the biological and chemical process affecting animals *(Ref. ARSA-7 on file in the Board Office)*.

UNR Executive Vice President and Provost Jeff Thompson provided a brief overview of the proposal.

Regent Del Carlo asked whether the proposed degree would serve as a steppingstone to the proposed veterinary medicine program. Provost Thompson confirmed that the animal science program will provide a strong foundation for students pursuing veterinary medicine and other advanced degrees.

Chair Arrascada commended the faculty and staff for developing the proposal and requested additional information regarding transfer agreements with Western Nevada College. Provost Thompson explained that faculty had collaborated with WNC and other institutions to establish clear transfer pathways that allow students to transition seamlessly into the program. UNR Department Chair of Agriculture, Veterinary & Rangeland Sciences Mike Teglas shared that transfer agreements had been developed with several Nevada and northern California institutions. UNR had previously offered an animal science degree before it was discontinued during the 2009 recession. He explained that the program is being reinstated in response to student demand.

In response to a question from Vice Chair Downs, Provost Thompson explained that the transfer agreements had been in development for several years.

Regent Del Carlo moved approval of a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science at UNR. Regent Bautista seconded. Motion carried.

8. Approved-School of Veterinary Medicine, UNR – The Committee recommended approval for UNR to begin the accreditation process and the search and hire of a planning dean for a School of Veterinary Medicine *(Ref. ARSA-8 on file in the Board Office)*.

Provost Thompson noted the proposed School of Veterinary Medicine would allow students to stay in Nevada, aligning with the needs of the community. Additionally, there is a national demand for veterinarians and Nevada has an opportunity to be a leader in addressing one of the most pressing workforce challenges. Provost Thompson shared that there are 14,000 acres of research and agricultural land across Nevada which would provide

8. Approved-School of Veterinary Medicine, UNR – *(continued)*

immersive learning opportunities. Students will train in the field in partnership with the communities they will serve. UNR is targeting enrollment for the first class to begin in 2029, with a graduating class in 2033. Though this is an aggressive path, it matches scales of opportunity available in the state.

Regent Del Carlo shared her excitement for a School of Veterinary Medicine. She requested future comparisons of tuition rates with other veterinary schools in the Western region.

Regent Brown recognized the need for a School of Veterinary Medicine in Nevada. She inquired about the possibility of grant funding and whether there will be a future proposal for differential fees. Provost Thompson provided assurance that there will be transparency throughout the process of identifying funding and tuition bases.

Regent Del Carlo moved approval for UNR to begin the accreditation process and the search and hire of a planning dean for a School of Veterinary Medicine. Vice Chair Downs seconded. Motion carried.

9. Approved-*Handbook* Revision, Intellectual Property – The Committee recommended approval of a revision 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 *(Ref. ARSA-9on file in the Board Office)*.

Acting Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Renée Davis noted the proposed policy revision would adjust the current distribution model to allocate 40 percent to the inventor, 25 percent to the academic unit, 15 percent to an institutional central fund, and 20 percent to an institutional Proof of Concept Fund. The intent of the revision is to better align NSHE policy with national norms and to support early-stage innovation and commercialization through dedicated funding.

Representatives from DRI, UNLV, and UNR provided updates regarding the institutional review process and expressed support for the proposal. Representatives confirmed the proposal has been reviewed by faculty senates, faculty members, research leadership, and business officers at their respective institutions, with no objections identified.

UNR Senior Vice President for Research and Innovation Mridul Gautam reported that from 2020 through 2025, commercialization activities generated approximately $2.6 million in gross revenue from 21 faculty members, with approximately $1.4 million distributed to 51 inventors.

Regent Del Carlo commended the extensive collaboration and shared governance process that informed the proposal, expressing appreciation for the creation of the Proof of Concept Fund and the consensus achieved among stakeholders.

9. Approved-*Handbook* Revision, Intellectual Property – *(continued)*

Vice Chair Downs stated that he initially had concerns regarding the reduction of the inventor distribution from 60 percent to 40 percent, but creation of the Proof of Concept Fund and the collaborative process demonstrated the value of the revised model. He expressed support for the proposal.

Regent Brown expressed support for strengthening commercialization efforts and acknowledged the importance of advancing technology transfer activities. However, she questioned whether the proposed allocation provides sufficient institutional resources to support commercialization efforts and stated that she would have preferred a different distribution model. Regent Brown noted that she supports the creation of the Proof of Concept Fund, but remains concerned about ensuring institutions have adequate resources to successfully commercialize research. Dr. Gautam explained that the proposed distribution reflected more than two years of collaboration and represented a consensus developed through shared governance among faculty, research leadership, academic officers, and institutional stakeholders. He noted that the 40 percent inventor allocation represented a balance among competing priorities, including rewarding inventors, supporting academic units, sustaining technology transfer operations, and funding institutional innovation initiatives.

Vice Chair Downs moved approval of the proposed *Handbook* revision as presented. Regent Del Carlo seconded. Motion carried.

10. Information Only-2024-2025 Financial Aid Annual Report – Director of Student Affairs Ashley Salisbury presented highlights from the 2024-25 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 *(Refs. ARSA-10a and ARSA-10b on file in the Board Office)*.

Ms. Salisbury reported that approximately $789 million in financial aid was disbursed Systemwide, representing a 21.4 percent increase over the prior year. She highlighted that financial aid continues to improve college affordability by assisting students with tuition, fees, books, and other educational expenses. Ms. Salisbury noted that all seven NSHE teaching institutions experienced growth in financial aid disbursements over the past five years, with six institutions reporting increases from the previous year.

Ms. Salisbury reviewed trends in Pell Grants, student loans, state-supported financial aid programs, and other funding sources. She reported that Pell Grant awards totaled approximately $188.8 million and that student loan borrowing has continued to decline over the past five years, consistent with national trends. She also highlighted that, for the first time in more than two decades, grants represented a larger share of total financial aid awarded across NSHE than student loans, reflecting increased investment in grants and scholarships and reduced reliance on borrowing.

10. Information Only-2024-2025 Financial Aid Annual Report – *(continued)*

Ms. Salisbury also provided an overview of the FAFSA process, cost-of-attendance calculations, financial aid award packaging, and recent federal policy changes that may affect financial aid programs, including modifications to Pell Grant eligibility, student loan borrowing limits, graduate loan programs, and repayment structures. She noted that NSHE financial aid offices continue to monitor federal guidance and provide students with timely information and individualized assistance.

Regent Brown inquired about state-supported financial aid programs, including whether students may receive multiple forms of state financial aid, the number of Millennium Scholarship recipients, and current scholarship eligibility requirements. Ms. Salisbury explained that students may receive awards from multiple programs if eligible and confirmed the current Millennium Scholarship award amounts and grade point average requirements.

Vice Chair Downs inquired about participation in the Nevada Promise Scholarship program and whether funding has been sufficient to serve all eligible students. Acting Vice Chancellor Davis explained that Nevada Promise is a last-dollar scholarship and, in limited instances, institutional financial aid funds have been used to supplement the program when appropriated funding was insufficient. She added that NSHE continues to work with the State Treasurer's Office to project future funding needs.

Regent Del Carlo asked for clarification regarding the grade point average required to maintain Millennium Scholarship eligibility. Ms. Salisbury explained that recipients must maintain a 2.75 semester grade point average to remain eligible.

11. Information Only-2024-2025 Sponsored Funding Annual Report – Director of Nevada System Sponsored Programs and EPSCoR Marcie Jackson presented highlights from the 2024-25 NSHE Sponsored Funding Annual Report, including information on sponsored programs, awards and expenditures for all NSHE institutions *(Refs. ARSA-11a and ARSA-11b on file in the Board Office)*.

Ms. Jackson reported that NSHE institutions received approximately $406.5 million in sponsored awards during fiscal year 2025, including approximately $188.5 million in research funding. She noted that overall sponsored funding declined compared to the previous year, attributing the decrease in part to changes in federal funding priorities.

Ms. Jackson reviewed sponsored funding trends across NSHE institutions and highlighted examples of significant research, workforce development, and educational grants awarded during the fiscal year. She also summarized collaborative projects involving multiple NSHE institutions and provided an overview of proposal submission activity.

Ms. Jackson discussed the impact of federal funding changes implemented during 2025, including grant suspensions, terminations, and delays resulting from changes in federal funding priorities and agency reviews. She noted that these actions created significant

11. Information Only-2024-2025 Sponsored Funding Annual Report – *(continued)*

uncertainty for research institutions and required substantial administrative effort to respond, while continuing to support faculty, research programs, and students. Despite these challenges, Ms. Jackson commended faculty and research administrators for maintaining strong proposal activity and continuing to secure external funding opportunities.

12. Information Only-New Business – None.

13. Information Only-Public Comment – None.

The meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

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

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