

BOARD OF REGENTS BRIEFING PAPER

1. AGENDA ITEM TITLE: University of Nevada, Reno Nevada Medical Journal

MEETING DATE: October 16, 2026

2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

Nevada is one of few states without a statewide medical journal. The University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine (UNR Med) and Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (KSOM at UNLV) are developing the Nevada Medical Journal (NMJ), a scholarly publication intended to promote original scientific medical research and clinical innovation relevant to Nevada and the western United States. The proposed journal provides a platform for collaboration among medical professionals, researchers, educators, trainees, and healthcare organizations while increasing the visibility of Nevada's medical achievements at the regional, national, and global levels.

3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

Paul J. Hauptman, MD, Dean of the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine will present for information the newly created Nevada Medical Journal developed between the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine and the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and published by the Nevada System of Higher Education.

4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

Despite Nevada's continued growth in healthcare, research, and medical education, it remains without a statewide peer-reviewed medical journal. Through this initiative, our two public medical schools are proud to fill this gap and create a scholarly platform that will showcase the clinical, educational, public health, and research occurring throughout Nevada. We are additionally seeking collaboration with the Nevada State Medical Association. The first edition is slated to publish in the first quarter of calendar year 2028.

The NMJ represents an ambitious and collaborative vision to elevate Nevada's medical community through rigorous scholarship and statewide partnership. By combining the resources and expertise of UNR Med and KSOM at UNLV and health care experts, NMJ will contribute to interdisciplinary opportunities, improved healthcare outcomes, professional development, and the scientific reputation of Nevada.

The NMJ will:

- Promote original scientific medical research and clinical innovation relevant to Nevada and the western United States.
- Provide a platform for discussion of healthcare challenges, public health initiatives, and policy development specifically for Nevada but also for the nation at large
- Advance medical education and professional development through scholarly exchange.
- Foster collaboration among medical professionals, researchers, students, and healthcare organizations.
- Increase visibility of Nevada's medical achievements at regional, national, and global levels.
- Provide publication opportunities for original research, quality improvement studies, review articles, case reports, health care policy analyses, public health reports, medical education innovations, and humanities-focused content.
- Strengthen statewide partnerships among UNR Med, the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV, and healthcare practitioners throughout Nevada.

The journal will be published online through Scholastica, an online platform which specializes in academic journal services. The journal will maintain primary two editors, two associate editors, and an editorial board comprised of faculty from both schools of medicine.

A memorandum of understanding will be developed between the two schools to include, but not limited to:

- Editorial control
- Ownership of content
- Risk allocation and mitigation
- Cybersecurity responsibilities
- Accessibility
- Legal structure
- Marketing

5. CHECK THE NSHE STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL THAT IS SUPPORTED BY THIS REQUEST:

- ☐ Access (Increase access to higher education)
- ☒ Success (Improve student success)
- ☐ Close Institutional Performance Gaps
- ☐ Workforce (meet workforce needs in Nevada)
- ☒ Research (Increase solutions-focused research)
- ☐ Coordination, Accountability, and Transparency (Ensure system coordination, accountability, and transparency)
- ☐ Not Applicable to NSHE Strategic Plan Goals

6. INDICATE HOW THE PROPOSAL SUPPORTS THE SPECIFIC STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL

The proposed Nevada Medical Journal promotes research, scholarship, clinical innovation, and dissemination of scientific knowledge across Nevada and the western United States. The journal will foster collaboration among medical professionals, researchers, students, and healthcare organizations, creating an avenue for sharing solutions-focused research and innovations that support healthcare improvement and workforce development throughout Nevada. A publication of this level advances and elevates the reputation of NSHE as a whole and its two medical schools.

7. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for information.

8. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for information.

9. ALTERNATIVE(S) TO WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED/RECOMMENDED:

This item is for information.

10. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE:

This item is for information only.

11. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:

- ☐ Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title # _____ Chapter # _____ Section # _____
 - ☐ Amends Current Board Policy: Title # _____ Chapter # _____ Section # _____
 - ☐ Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter # _____ Section # _____
 - ☐ Other: _____
- Fiscal Impact: Yes _____ No x _____
- Explain: _____