

**BOARD OF REGENTS and its  
CULTURAL DIVERSITY COMMITTEE  
NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION**  
Joe Crowley Student Union, Milt Glick Ballrooms B & C  
University of Nevada, Reno  
87 West Stadium Way, Reno  
Thursday, June 6, 2019

Video Conference Connection from the Meeting Site to:  
System Administration, Las Vegas  
4300 S. Maryland Parkway, Board Room  
and  
Great Basin College, Elko  
1500 College Parkway, Berg Hall Conference Room

Members Present: Mr. Sam Lieberman, Chair  
Dr. Patrick R. Carter  
Ms. Amy J. Carvalho  
Mrs. Cathy McAdoo  
Ms. Laura E. Perkins

Members Absent: Mr. John T. Moran, Vice Chair

Other Regents Present: Dr. Jason Geddes, Vice Chairman  
Dr. Mark W. Doubrava  
Mr. Donald Sylvantee McMichael Sr.

Others Present: Dr. Thom Reilly, Chancellor  
Mr. Dean J. Gould, Chief of Staff & Special Counsel to the Board  
Ms. Crystal Abba, Vice Chancellor, Academic & Student Affairs  
Mr. Nate Mackinnon, Vice Chancellor, Community Colleges  
Mr. Joseph Reynolds, Chief General Counsel  
Mr. Zelalem Bogale, Deputy General Counsel  
Ms. Renee Davis, Assistant Vice Chancellor and  
Director of Student Affairs  
Mr. Michael Flores, Chief of Staff to the Chancellor  
Mr. Jose Martinez, Director, Institutional Research  
Mr. Theo Meek, Research Scholar  
Dr. Federico Zaragoza, President, CSN  
Dr. Kristen Averyt, President, DRI  
Mr. Bart J. Patterson, President, NSC  
Dr. Karin M. Hilgersom, President, TMCC  
Dr. Marc A. Johnson, President, UNR  
Dr. Vincent R. Solis, President, WNC

Faculty Senate Chairs in attendance were: Dr. Richard L. Jasoni, DRI; Dr. Abby Peters, NSC; Ms. Janet Stake, System Administration; Mr. Mike Holmes, TMCC; Dr. Janis McKay, UNLV; and Mr. Douglas Unger, Chair, Council of Faculty Senate Chairs. Student Body Presidents in attendance were: Ms. Alexandra Patri, TMCC; and Ms. Tamara Guinn, UNR-GSA.

*For others present, please see the attendance roster on file in the Board office.*

Chair Lieberman called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. with all members present except for Vice Chair Moran and Regent McAdoo.

1. Information Only-Public Comment – None.
2. Approved-Minutes – The Committee recommended approval of the minutes from the November 30, 2018, meeting (*Ref. CD-2 on file in the Board office*).

Regent Perkins moved approval of the minutes from the November 30, 2018, meeting. Regent Carter seconded. Motion carried. Vice Chair Moran and Regent McAdoo were absent.

3. Information Only-Remarks from the Chair – Chair Sam Lieberman provided general remarks on activities and updates since the last meeting of the Committee. He noted that with the Cultural Diversity Committee meetings now occurring twice per year, he is working with the NSHE Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Council (EDIC) and the Hispanic Serving Institution Task Force (HSI) to facilitate opportunities for more community dialogue, the first of which will be an HSI Convening this fall.
4. Information Only-Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Council – YeVonne Allen, Program Manager, Equity and Inclusion Office, TMCC, and EDIC Chair, reported on the recent work of the Council including a presentation of updates regarding the outcome from the EDIC Retreat, the Closing the Achievement Gap Summit, Preferred Name Resolution, and Policy for Information and Communications (ICT) Accessibility discussion (*Refs. CD-4a and CD-4b on file in the Board office*).

Chair Lieberman thanked Ms. Allen for her service as the EDIC Chair, partnering with the System on the Achievement Gap issues and her work at TMCC.

5. Information Only-NSHE Hispanic Serving Institution Task Force – Clarissa Cota, HSI Task Force Chair, CSN/NSHE, provided an update on Task Force activities and a summary of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities Capitol Forum 2019 convening in Washington, D.C.

Ms. Cota also extended an invitation to the Committee for the October 3, 2019,

5. Information Only-NSHE Hispanic Serving Institution Task Force – (continued)

HSI Convening at the CSN North Las Vegas campus. At this event, there will be discussions on the alignment of HSI and MSI initiatives on the NSHE campuses, along with an orientation of these efforts for NSHE leadership and community partners.

Chair Lieberman thanked Ms. Cota for bringing EDIC, HSI and the Cultural Diversity Committee closer together. He also thanked Ms. Cota for creating the concept of the HSI summit, which will bring the NSHE's vision and mission to the outside community.

6. Information Only-NSHE Northern Nevada Diversity Summit – Patricia Richard, Chief Diversity Officer, UNR, reported on attendance, activities and outcomes from the Northern Nevada Diversity Summit hosted in April 2019.

Ms. Richard shared some highlights from the Northern Nevada Diversity Summit which included: the student speech competition; 30 presentations shared in multiple formats; over 400 attendees were present and 66 percent of the participants had attended previous summits; 90 percent of the survey respondents said the summit increased their cultural competency; and the date of the next summit which will take place on Thursday, April 2, 2020.

Regent McAdoo entered the meeting.

Chair Lieberman thanked Ms. Richard her for her work on the UNR campus and her work on the Northern Nevada Diversity Summit. He noted there will be a special focus on preparing for the 2020 summit to do a broader outreach with the marketing for the purpose of diversifying and raising the rate of attendees.

Ms. Richard thanked her fellow diversity officers from across NSHE for their collaboration and assistance on these initiatives.

7. Information Only-Diversity and Equity in the College of Liberal Arts at UNR – Dr. Jen Hill, Director of the Gender, Race, and Identity Program and Associate Professor of English, UNR, presented new initiatives at the University aimed at promoting cultural diversity as well as the motivations for those initiatives (Ref. CD-7 on file in the Board office).

Dr. Hill's presentation included the nature and achievements of the GRI Program and its faculty, the importance of a curricular footprint for students' cultural competency, and the centrality rather than ancillary nature of cultural diversity within the NSHE.

Chair Lieberman commented that these programs are very substantive and critical as it involves many students, future alumni and the community.

8. Information Only-NSC Office of Community Engagement and Diversity Initiatives – Amey Evaluna, Program Manager, Office of Community Engagement and Diversity Initiatives, NSC, and Laura Obrist, Academic Advisor, NSC, provided a presentation on the College’s homeless and foster youth initiatives. Their presentation was followed by an update on NSC’s Men of Color work by Vincent Nava, Program Coordinator (*Refs. CD-8a and CD-8b on file in the Board office*).

Chair Lieberman thanked the NSC representatives for their presentations and commented that by implementing these initiatives, NSC is setting a trend for diversity and inclusion that he hopes will continue to grow within the System. He discussed that some time ago, UNLV had partnered with the Clark County School District to implement the Hope Scholars Program which assists unaccompanied homeless youth in Clark County to secure housing, academic and financial support while attending UNLV. He was proud to share that the program is currently thriving at UNLV. Chair Lieberman also thanked Board leadership and the Chancellor’s Office for the work on hiring staff to assist the foster students and homeless youth within the System.

Regent Carter asked if there was a boost in foster youth enrollment in the spring 2019 semester. Ms. Obrist answered there was somewhat of a small increase in enrollment due to the enrollment fee waiver. Also, with the implementation of the fee waiver, NSC has set up a system to assist students with completing the enrollment fee waiver form and navigating the initial steps in the college application process. With these in place, NSC expects the enrollment rate will continue to grow in the future.

Regent Perkins asked if any policy barriers to the homeless student population were identified. Ms. Evaluna answered that one specific policy barrier is in the fee waiver proposed for foster youth and in an equivalent fee waiver for homeless students as students must be eligible for the Pell Grant, which excludes DACA students. She also noted that while there is an equivalent homeless fee waiver proposed, it has not yet been funded. Lastly, she mentioned that funding is also needed for staff that would serve as liaisons between foster youth/homeless students and the NSHE institutions.

9. Withdrawn-Cultural Diversity on Campus – Mr. Zelalem Bogale, Deputy General Counsel, announced the item has been withdrawn because the presenter was unable to attend the meeting.
10. Information Only-New Business – At a future meeting, the Committee requested that EDIC coordinate presentations from each institution on the ICT accessibility policy, as well as a dialogue surrounding the important and unique responsibilities of Chief Diversity Officers.

Based on discussions with Dr. Hill, the Committee requested that students in the GRI Program at UNR have regular representation at the Committee meetings for

10. Information Only-New Business – *(continued)*

dialogue on student-specific issues.

Regent Perkins noted that continued dialogue is needed to identify and explore the removal of barriers to education for homeless youth, such as the Foster Youth Fee Waiver not being available to undocumented students.

11. Information Only-Public Comment – None.

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 a.m.

Prepared by: Winter M.N. Lipson  
Special Assistant and Coordinator to the Board of Regents

Submitted for approval by: Dean J. Gould  
Chief of Staff and Special Counsel to the Board of Regents

**Approved by the Board of Regents at its December 5-6, 2019, meeting.**