

**BOARD OF REGENTS and its  
HEALTH SCIENCES SYSTEM COMMITTEE  
NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

Aspen Building, Carson Nugget Hall  
Western Nevada College  
2201 West College Parkway, Carson City  
Thursday, September 5, 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. Kevin J. Page, Chair  
Ms. Amy J. Carvalho, Vice Chair  
Mr. Sam Lieberman  
Mrs. Cathy McAdoo  
Mr. John T. Moran

Members Absent: Mr. Rick Trachok

Other Regents Present: Dr. Jason Geddes, Chairman  
Dr. Mark W. Doubrava, Vice Chairman  
Mrs. Carol Del Carlo  
Mr. Trevor Hayes

Others Present: Dr. Thom Reilly, Chancellor  
Mr. Dean J. Gould, Chief of Staff & Special Counsel to the Board  
Mr. Joseph Reynolds, Chief General Counsel  
Mr. Caleb Cage, Assistant Vice Chancellor,  
Workforce Development & Community Colleges  
Ms. Terina Caserto, Senior Analyst, Academic & Student Affairs  
Ms. Renee Davis, Assistant Vice Chancellor and  
Director of Student Affairs  
Ms. Joi Holliday, Senior Policy Analyst  
Mr. James Martines, Deputy General Counsel for Real Estate  
Mr. Francis McCabe, Communications Officer  
Mr. Theo Meek, Research Scholar  
Mr. Rhett Vertrees, Assistant Chief Financial Officer  
Dr. Federico Zaragoza, President, CSN  
Dr. Kumud Acharya, President, DRI  
Ms. Joyce M. Helens, President, GBC  
Mr. Bart J. Patterson, President, NSC  
Dr. Marta Meana, President, UNLV

Others Present: Dr. Marc A. Johnson, President, UNR  
Dr. Vincent R. Solis, President, WNC

Faculty senate chairs in attendance were: Dr. Arnold Bell, CSN; Dr. Amanda Keen-Zebert, DRI; Mr. George Kleebe, GBC; Dr. Janis McKay, UNLV; and Dr. Brian Frost, UNR. Student body presidents in attendance were: Ms. Nicola Opfer, NSC; Ms. Alexandra Patri, TMCC; Ms. Hannah Patenaude, UNLV-CSUN; and Ms. Tamara Guinn, UNR-GSA.

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

Chair Kevin J. Page called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. with all members present except Regent Trachok.

1. Information Only-Public Comment – None.
2. Approved-Minutes – The Committee recommended approval of the minutes from the June 6, 2019, meeting (*Ref. HSS-2 on file in the Board Office*).

Vice Chair Carvalho moved approval of the minutes from the June 6, 2019, meeting. Regent McAdoo seconded. Motion carried. Regent Trachok was absent.

3. Information Only-Chair's Report – Chair Kevin J. Page provided general remarks and thanked Dr. Barbara Atkinson for her service as Founding Dean of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Medicine (UNLV SOM). He also wished Dr. Atkinson luck in her new role within the UNLV SOM. Additionally, Chair Page welcomed Dr. John Fildes as the Interim Dean of the UNLV SOM.
4. Information Only-UNLV School of Medicine Report – Dr. John Fildes, Interim Dean of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Medicine, provided a report on the Medical School and Practice Plan, and offered general remarks including information relating to accreditation, programs, funding and financial status (*Ref. HSS-4 on file in the Board Office*).

Dr. Marta Meana, President, UNLV, thanked Dr. Atkinson for her work and accomplishments as the Founding Dean. She announced that Dr. Atkinson will serve as a special advisor on community engagement and accreditation for UNLV SOM. President Meana introduced Dr. Fildes as the Interim Dean for the UNLV SOM and provided a brief overview of his professional background which included 20 years at the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine (UNR Med) and his work at UMC.

Interim Dean Fildes' report included: recruitment for the class of 2024; recruitment of internal positions, including the newly-hired Chair of the Department of Pediatrics; legislative updates, including the round table held with Senator Catherine Cortez Masto which focused on the high cost of prescription

4. Information Only-UNLV School of Medicine Report – *(continued)*

drugs; accreditation and timing of the next survey visit; and information on grants recently awarded and how those grants will allow a new fellowship program in forensic psychiatry and geriatrics programs.

Chair Page asked for further information on the search process and applicant pool for the Pediatrics Chair. Interim Dean Fildes said that Dr. Michael Gardner, Vice Dean for Clinical Affairs, UNLV SOM, served on that search committee and will provide more details.

Vice Chairman Doubrava and Chancellor Reilly welcomed Interim Dean Fildes.

Dr. Gardner said for the Pediatrics Chair search, there were a wide variety of applicants from all over the country. Two applicants from New Jersey and Florida were sitting chairs and several applicants were division directors. There were five finalists and the candidate who was hired will begin on October 1.

Dr. Gardner provided a report on UNLV SOM updates which included: the Practice Plan; the new resident physicians; a financial overview; the 401K Plan audit which was completed by an external CPA with clean results and no findings; achievement of Fee-for-Service (FFS) cash flow target of \$3 million per month for the period of March 1 to June 30, 2019, and the \$880,000 in additional funding that was secured for the Ackerman Autism Center; the detailed financial consolidation overview statement; and the implementation of compliance training and improvements to coding.

Chair Page asked for further information on the budget for clinical revenue. Dr. Gardner answered that the budget was based on estimates because there was not a year's worth of revenue available at the time the budget was created. UNLV SOM has come to discover that the budget was aspirational, but not practical. For the current year's budget, UNLV SOM was much more introspective and conservative in the estimations with making sure the budget projections were more accurate. So far, in the months of July and August, UNLV SOM has met its budget projections.

5. Information Only-UNR School of Medicine Report – Dr. Thomas L. Schwenk, Dean of the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine, provided a report on the Medical School and Practice Plan, and offered general remarks including information relating to accreditation, programs and funding (*Ref. HSS-5 on file in the Board Office*).

Dean Schwenk's report included: announcing the hire of Dr. Mark Riddle who serves as the Senior Associate Dean of Clinical Research; strategic planning; organizational development; curriculum review; the spring 2019 commencement; legislative updates; clinical platform development; research and partnerships; information on grants; Graduate Medical Education (GME); information on a

5. Information Only-UNR School of Medicine Report – (continued)

UNR Med initiative which focuses on community engagement; research programs; and faculty recruitment and retention.

Vice Chairman Doubrava spoke about the pipeline for the pre-medical students into the medical school and asked if the admissions department at both medical schools could work on gathering information on the in-state pool applicants to present to the Committee at a future meeting. Dean Schwenk answered that UNR Med's in-state pool is roughly in the 330-340 range and about 280 of those applicants are interviewed. There is an assumption that there is a fair bit of overlap of applicants who apply for both NSHE medical schools. Dean Schwenk said they will work on providing the information to the Committee.

6. Information Only-Physicians in Rural Nevada – Dr. Thomas L. Schwenk, Dean of the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine, and Dr. John Packham, Associate Dean, Office of Statewide Initiatives, Co-Director, Nevada Health Workforce Research Center, provided a report discussing the need for physicians in rural Nevada (*Ref. HSS-6 on file in the Board Office*).

Dr. Packham provided a presentation which included: factors for health workforce demand in Nevada; primary care, dental health and mental health workforce shortages; the average need for medicine and nursing; current policy developments to improve health workforce supply in Nevada; GME and the physician workforce supply in Nevada – 2008 to 2018; the Nevada Health Service Corps; data on licensed Advanced Practice Registered Nurses and Physician Assistants; and implications for rural health workforce development.

Regent McAdoo complimented Dr. Packham and his team for their work on the *Nevada Rural and Frontier Health Data Book* which is released biennially.

Vice Chairman Doubrava thanked Dr. Packham for his report.

7. Information Only-CSN Dental Program – Dr. Margo Martin, Vice President of Academic Affairs, College of Southern Nevada; Ms. Janice Glasper, Interim Dean, School of Health Sciences; and Dr. Gary Widdison, Professor and Dental Director, provided a report on the Dental Program at CSN and offered general remarks on the Dental Hygiene Program, the Dental Assisting Program and the Dental Faculty Practice (*Ref. HSS-7 on file in the Board Office*).

Dr. Federico Zaragoza, President, CSN, provided opening remarks and introduced Dr. Margo Martin, Ms. Janice Glasper and Dr. Gary Widdison who worked on the report.

Dr. Martin presented the CSN Dental Faculty Practice (DFP) status report which included: CSN's high performing academic programming in dental healthcare; DFP support for CSN's academic dental programs and the community;

7. Information Only-CSN Dental Program – (continued)

the “Move Forward” plan; and DFP Support for CSN’s academic programs.

Chair Page asked how much money was saved by decreasing the dental hygienists, which had an annual savings to the Practice of \$80,000 and adding the three dental assistants. Dr. Widdison answered that by increasing the number of dental assistants, it improves the DFP production. The cost of adding the dental assistants is less than the \$80,000 gained by letting go of one of the dental hygienists.

Regarding outsource and collections, Chair Page asked if there were any positions eliminated internally. Dr. Widdison answered that under the leadership of the CSN DFP’s new office manager, the collection rate has been between 90-95 percent, which is very good. Outside sourcing has been narrowed down to two companies which would increase the monthly overhead; however, it is currently being monitored to ensure that the collection rate stays between 90-95 percent.

Chair Page shared his appreciation for the presentation.

8. Information Only-New Business – None.

9. Information Only-Public Comment – Dr. Sara Hunt, Director of UNLV Mental and Behavioral Health Coalition; Assistant Dean of Behavioral Health Sciences, UNLVSOM, shared her support of Dr. Packham’s presentation. She stated there are two consistent issues which are barriers to care for mental healthcare in Nevada: 1) reimbursement rate; and 2) workforce development. While the NSHE does not assist with reimbursement, the NSHE can and should assist with workforce development and providing support to boost efforts.

The meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.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.**