

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

Videoconference/Teleconference

Friday, June 12, 2020

- Members Present:           Mr. Kevin J. Page, Chair  
                                  Ms. Amy J. Carvalho, Vice Chair  
                                  Ms. Lisa C. Levine  
                                  Mrs. Cathy McAdoo  
                                  Mr. John T. Moran  
                                  Mr. Rick Trachok
- Other Regents Present:    Dr. Jason Geddes, Chairman  
                                  Dr. Mark W. Doubrava, Vice Chairman  
                                  Dr. Patrick R. Carter  
                                  Mrs. Carol Del Carlo  
                                  Ms. Laura E. Perkins
- Others Present:            Mr. Dean J. Gould, Chief of Staff & Special Counsel to the Board  
                                  Mr. Joseph Reynolds, Chief General Counsel  
                                  Dr. Federico Zaragoza, President, CSN  
                                  Mr. Bart J. Patterson, President, NSC  
                                  Dr. Karin M. Hilgersom, President, TMCC  
                                  Dr. Marta Meana, President, UNLV  
                                  Dr. Vincent R. Solis, President, WNC

Vice Chair Amy J. Carvalho called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. with all members present except for Regent Moran and Regent Trachok.

1.     Information Only-Public Comment – None.
2.     Approved-Minutes – The Committee recommended approval of the minutes from the March 5, 2020, meeting (*Ref. HSS-2 on file in the Board Office*).

Regent McAdoo moved approval of the minutes of the March 5, 2020, meeting. Chair Page seconded. Motion carried. Regent Moran and Regent Trachok were absent.

3.     Information Only-Chair's Report – Chair Kevin J. Page thanked all the institutions for their continued response to the COVID-19 pandemic and shared

3. Information Only-Chair's Report – *(continued)*

his appreciation for the leadership. He also welcomed Dr. Marc Kahn to Nevada as the new Dean of the UNLV School of Medicine.

Vice Chair Carvalho expressed her pride and gratitude for all members of the Schools of Medicine and health care providers working within the NSHE and said she considers them heroes.

4. 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 which included information relating to accreditation, programs, funding, financial status and matters pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic (*Ref. HSS-4 on file in the Board Office*).

Dean Schwenk welcomed Dr. Marc Kahn to UNLV and provided his report which included: general issues involving the Coronavirus Crisis Action Team (C-CAT), new faculty hires and introductions, updates on faculty/staff wellness and support, and an update on the VA Sierra Nevada Healthcare System partnership; undergraduate medical education; Graduate Medical Education; University Health Clinical Network development; and research.

Regent Moran entered the meeting.

Chairman Geddes asked what the timeline is for expanding the Physician Assistant (PA) program. Dean Schwenk answered that currently the PA program is accredited for 24 students for five years. After those five years, there will be the opportunity to expand the program to accommodate between 30-36 students.

Vice Chairman Doubrava thanked Dean Schwenk and UNR Med for their participation with the state in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic. Regarding the Practice Plan, aside from the Paycheck Protection Program, he asked if UNR Med participated in the Advance Medicare Payment Program. Dean Schwenk said the Advance Medicare Payment Program assists with maintaining cashflow and UNR Med was not in need of that from a cashflow perspective. He surmised it would be difficult to track that funding for reconciliation and repayment purposes. UNR Med made the decision to focus on funds that were incremental, such as the CMS funds and the Paycheck Protection Program.

Vice Chairman Doubrava praised Dean Schwenk regarding residency matches and programs, and the shift toward more LCME US graduates which he believed is greatly beneficial for the school. Dean Schwenk said there has been more of a desire to focus on LCME-accredited graduates and they are very pleased with the outcome.

Regent Trachok entered the meeting.

5. Information Only-UNLV School of Medicine Report – Dr. Marc J. Kahn, 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 which included information relating to accreditation, programs, funding, financial status and matters pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic (*Ref. HSS-5 on file in the Board Office*).

Dean Kahn provided his report which included: announcements involving a brief introduction of his background, UNLV SOM's COVID-19 response and an outline of Dr. Kahn's priorities as the UNLV SOM Dean; undergraduate medical education; Graduate Medical Education; research; and faculty affairs.

Dr. Michael Gardner, Vice Dean for Clinical Affairs, provided his report which included: COVID-19 testing and curbside testing; clinical affairs; National Guard assistance; the Practice Plan; network development; community partnerships; and a financial overview.

Regent Levine asked for further elaboration on the \$7 million owed to the medical school. Vice Dean Gardner said the number one expense for the Practice Plan is the faculty salaries followed by malpractice insurance for sovereign immunity and building leasing. Regent Levine asked if there is a document available which breaks down the services to UMC which encompasses the \$4 million gap of uncompensated funds. Vice Dean Gardner answered that they can provide that information to the Committee and invited all Regents to meet with him and his leadership team to tour the different UNLV SOM clinics and review the Practice Plan. Regent Levine thanked Vice Dean Gardner and team for all the work that has been done serving the community in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Vice Chairman Doubrava added that he looks forward to receiving the information requested by Regent Levine and welcomed Dean Kahn. Dean Kahn thanked Vice Chairman Doubrava for the welcome and support and said moving forward UNLV SOM's top priorities will be caring for the community and being fiscally responsible. He added that an important perspective to keep in mind regarding some of the financial numbers presented by Vice Dean Gardner is some of those monies that were lost were lost caring for the community. The financial reality is critical and should not be ignored; however, UNLV SOM has an obligation to the people of Las Vegas.

Regent Levine thought it would be important to include some colleagues on the County Commission and City of Las Vegas in an upcoming Practice Plan meeting and tour to better understand the gravity of the work UNLV SOM is doing. She offered her assistance with arranging it. Dean Kahn agreed and appreciated the recommendation.

6. Information Only-NSHE Nursing Programs during the COVID-19 Pandemic – Amber Donnelly, Ph.D., RN, CNE, Dean, Health Science Human Services, GBC, presented a report on efforts within nursing programs that NSHE institutions have

6. Information Only-NSHE Nursing Programs during the COVID-19 Pandemic – (continued)

undertaken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (*Ref. HSS-6 on file in the Board Office*).

Dean Donnelly presented her report which highlighted the COVID-19 response from the NSC, TMCC, UNR and GBC nursing programs including: efforts in community outreach and partnerships; volunteer activities; nursing students being fast-tracked to graduation in their final semester utilizing tools such as virtual simulation and Telemedicine; PPE donations to local hospitals; and nursing faculty working extra hours in hospitals.

Regent Moran left the meeting.

The meeting recessed at 9:59 a.m. and reconvened at 10:02 a.m. with all members present except Regent Moran.

During this Information Only agenda item, technical difficulties occurred and the connection to BlueJeans participants was briefly lost; however, the video connection between System Administration Las Vegas and Reno was retained. Connection to BlueJeans participants thereafter resumed.

Due to the technical difficulties, Dean Donnelly was unable to complete her presentation. The agenda item will be brought back at a future meeting of the Committee.

7. Information Only-New Business – None.

8. Information Only-Public Comment – None.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 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 September 10-11, 2020, meeting.**