

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

Videoconference/Teleconference
Thursday, December 3, 2020

Members Present: Dr. Jason Geddes, Chair
 Dr. Patrick R. Carter, Vice Chair
 Mrs. Cathy McAdoo
 Ms. Laura E. Perkins
 Mr. Rick Trachok

Other Regents Present: Mrs. Carol Del Carlo, Board Vice Chair
 Ms. Amy J. Carvalho
 Ms. Lisa C. Levine
 Mr. Donald Sylvantee McMichael Sr.
 Mr. John T. Moran
 Mr. Kevin J. Page

Others Present: Dr. Melody Rose, Chancellor
 Ms. Crystal Abba, Vice Chancellor, Academic & Student Affairs
 Mr. Andrew Clinger, Chief Financial Officer
 Mr. Nate Mackinnon, Vice Chancellor, Community Colleges
 Mr. Joseph Reynolds, Chief General Counsel
 Mr. Zelalem Bogale, Deputy General Counsel
 Ms. Terina Caserto, Senior Analyst, Academic & Student Affairs
 Ms. Renee Davis, Assistant Vice Chancellor and
 Director of Student Affairs
 Dr. Federico Zaragoza, President, CSN
 Dr. Kumud Acharya, President, DRI
 Ms. Joyce M. Helens, President, GBC
 Mr. Bart J. Patterson, President, NSC
 Dr. Karin M. Hilgersom, President, TMCC
 Dr. Keith E. Whitfield, President, UNLV
 Mr. Brian Sandoval, President, UNR
 Dr. Vincent R. Solis, President, WNC

Faculty senate chairs in attendance were: Dr. Maria Schellhase, CSN; Dr. Laura Naumann, NSC; Dr. Theo Meek, System Administration; Ms. YeVonne Allen, TMCC; Dr. Vicki Rosser, UNLV; and Dr. Amy Pason, UNR. The NSHE Classified Council Executive Board member in attendance was Ms. Sarah Wilkey, Communications Officer. Student body presidents in attendance were: Ms. Alyssa Fromelius, TMCC; Mr. Joshua Padilla, UNLV-CSUN; Ms. Dominique Hall, UNR-ASUN; and Mr. Will Carrasco, UNR-GSA.

Chair Jason Geddes called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. with all members present.

1. Information Only-Public Comment – Special Assistant and Coordinator Winter Lipson read into the record public comment submitted by Dr. Serge Ballif, NSC, expressing his concerns regarding the rigid direction being taken for the corequisite action plan for math.
2. Approved-Consent Items – The Committee recommended approval of the following consent items:
 - (2a.) Approved-Minutes – The Committee recommended approval of the minutes from the September 10, 2020, meeting (*Ref. ARSA-2a on file in the Board Office*).
 - (2b.) Approved-UNLV – Program Eliminations – A review of the NSHE Academic Program Information System (APIS) indicated a number of degree programs that are no longer active; therefore, the Committee recommended approval to eliminate the following inactive programs:
 - Human Resource Management, BS (*Ref. ARSA-2b1 on file in the Board Office*)
 - Educational Psychology, M.Ed (*Ref. ARSA-2b2 on file in the Board Office*)
 - Educational Leadership, MS (*Ref. ARSA-2b3 on file in the Board Office*)
 - Pharmacy, Ph.D (*Ref. ARSA-2b4 on file in the Board Office*)
 - Science and Education, PDD (*Ref. ARSA-2b5 on file in the Board Office*)

Regent Trachok moved approval of the consent items. Regent McAdoo seconded. Motion carried.

3. Approved-NSHE Planning Report/Academic Master Plan – The Committee recommended approval of the *2021-2025 Planning Report* that highlights the institutional plans for the next four years for each NSHE institution, including plans for new academic programs, student services and research initiatives (*Ref. ARSA-3 on file in the Board Office*).

Ms. Renee Davis, Assistant Vice Chancellor and Director of Student Affairs, presented the *2021-2025 Planning Report* to the Committee.

Chair Geddes said that for those who have not seen the report before, the report is submitted to the Legislature so it is aware of the institutional plans going forward in the two- and four-year cycles. He added with the certificate programs, the goal is to be more nimble and the certificates are not included in the report, but can be added at any time; however, the Board will be updated on certificate programs that may come forward.

3. Approved-NSHE Planning Report/Academic Master Plan – *(continued)*

Regent Perkins said it may be important at this time to add the certificate programs to the report, perhaps even as a separate document. Ms. Crystal Abba, Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs, shared that the New and Existing Program Review (Agenda Item 10) does include information for all certificate programs and that information is disclosed publicly. Chair Geddes agreed with Regent Perkins that the certificate program information should also be shared with GOED and the development authorities.

Regent Trachok moved approval of the NSHE Planning Report/Academic Master Plan. Regent Perkins seconded.

Vice Chair Carter commented that a lot of the certificate programs are available at very low additional costs. He encouraged the institutions to continue to pursue those especially during the current budget crisis.

Motion carried.

4. Approved-UNLV – Program Proposal, MS Data Analytics – The Committee recommended approval of UNLV’s request for an interdisciplinary Master of Science in Data Analytics, an interdisciplinary program between the Colleges of Engineering, Sciences, Liberal Arts, Hospitality, the School of Public Health, and the Lee Business School. Data analytics is a growing field with numerous open jobs in all areas of the country, in a wide variety of industries, including banking, retail, entertainment and healthcare (*Ref. ARSA-4 on file in the Board Office*).

Dr. Chris Heavey, Executive Vice President and Provost, UNLV, provided a brief overview of the proposal.

Regent Trachok asked what the cost to the University would be for starting up the program. Dr. Heavey answered the program will rely predominately on existing resources. The major incremental cost will be in the computer resources and software that will be required to provide the appropriate training for students. The program will essentially be subsidized by the institution.

In response to a follow-up question from Regent Trachok, Dr. Heavey answered that UNLV anticipates launching the program in fall 2021 and there is sufficient personnel on board to offer these courses.

Regent Trachok moved approval of a Master of Science in Data Analytics at UNLV. Regent McAdoo seconded.

Vice Chair Carter said that NSC’s Interdisciplinary Data Science degree was recently approved and asked if NSC’s program has a natural build to UNLV’s MS in Data Analytics. Dr. Heavey confirmed that students coming from NSC’s program would be ideally suited for UNLV’s program which is designed to

4. Approved-UNLV – Program Proposal, MS Data Analytics – (continued)

take in students from a wide array of undergraduate degrees.

Motion carried.

5. Approved-UNLV – Program Proposal, Ph.D. Psychological and Brain Sciences –
The Committee recommended approval of UNLV's request for a Doctor of Philosophy in Psychological and Brain Sciences. This program would replace what is currently a concentration in Experimental Psychology under the Ph.D. in Psychology (*Ref. ARSA-5 on file in the Board Office*).

Dr. Heavey provided a brief overview of the proposal.

Regent Trachok asked what the cost to the University would be for starting the program considering the current budget restraints. Dr. Heavey answered there will be no additional cost as the program already exists and just the name of the program is being changed.

Regent Trachok moved approval of a Doctor of Philosophy in Psychological and Brain Sciences at UNLV. Regent McAdoo seconded. Motion carried.

6. Approved-UNR – Program Proposal, Ph.D. Natural Resources and Environmental Science –
The Committee recommended approval of UNR's request for a Doctor of Philosophy in Natural Resources and Environmental Science. This program addresses the need for professionals trained in the use of data-driven approaches and applications to address issues impacting the management of resources. The program will prepare students to address critical regional and global needs in natural resource ecology and management, and more broadly the field of environmental science (*Ref. ARSA-6 on file in the Board Office*).

Dr. Kevin Carman, Executive Vice President and Provost, UNR, provided a brief overview of the proposal.

Regent Trachok asked what the cost to the University would be for starting the program considering the current budget restraints. Dr. Carman answered there will be no additional costs to start the program and existing faculty will teach the classes. The hope is to launch the program in spring 2021.

Regent McAdoo moved approval of a Doctor of Philosophy in Natural Resources and Environmental Science at UNR. Regent Trachok seconded. Motion carried.

7. Approved-UNR – Organizational Unit Proposal, Guinn Center (Agenda Item 13)
– The Committee recommended approval of UNR’s request to locate the Kenny Guinn Center for Policy Priorities on the University of Nevada, Reno campus. The Guinn Center is an existing statewide, independent, nonpartisan policy center that will be self-funded. The mission of the Guinn Center is to advance evidence-based policy solutions through research, public engagement, and strategic partnerships (*Ref. ARSA-13 on file in the Board Office*).

Mr. Brian Sandoval, President, UNR, provided a brief overview of the proposal.

Regent Trachok asked for confirmation that no cost will be incurred by the University and space is just being made available on campus for Guinn Center employees. President Sandoval confirmed and added that the University is making an in-kind contribution of providing the space for the Center.

Regent Trachok commented that this is a great move for both UNR and the Guinn Center.

Regent Trachok moved approval of locating the Kenny Guinn Center for Policy Priorities on the UNR campus. Regent Perkins seconded.

Vice Chair Carter commented that he has been to a handful of Guinn Center events and believes it is fantastic for the Center to have found a home with UNR.

Regent McAdoo commented that she has a long history of working with Dr. Nancy Brune and the Guinn Center, and complimented the Center’s research and information that is shared.

Mr. Phil Satre commented that he has been involved with the Guinn Center since it was first established and expressed his excitement by the opportunity for the Center to be affiliated with UNR.

Motion carried.

8. Approval-CSN – Program Proposal, BAS Culinary Arts (Agenda Item 7) – The Committee recommended approval of CSN’s request for a Bachelor of Applied Science in Culinary Arts. This degree program focuses on the operational aspects of culinary arts in addition to the management facet of the profession. It will provide students with hands-on labs covering advance culinary techniques and business and management courses necessary for obtaining a career in today’s food services and hospitality industries (*Ref. ARSA-7 on file in the Board Office*).

Dr. Margo Martin, Chief Accreditation and Institutional Effectiveness Officer for Academic Affairs, CSN, provided a brief overview of the proposal. She added that the current resources in terms of faculty will cover the direction of the program and the plan is to launch the program in 2021.

8. Approval-CSN – Program Proposal, BAS Culinary Arts (Agenda Item 7) –
(continued)

Regent Trachok asked if it would be more appropriate to offer the degree program at the state college or university level. Dr. Martin said currently there is no other such program in the System that offers the applied education for students who have already earned the two-year degree in culinary arts. The BA program is very specific to culinary skills and kitchen management. Dr. Martin added that CSN is nationally renowned in terms of the culinary and hospitality fields, and what makes CSN unique is the applied nature of the work offered within these programs.

Regent Trachok moved approval of a Bachelor of Applied Science in Culinary Arts at CSN. Regent Perkins seconded.

Regent Perkins asked for more information on which organizations in the hospitality industry have requested the program. Dr. Martin said companies such as MGM, Resorts World and so forth.

Motion carried.

9. Approved-CSN – Program Proposal, BAS Food Service Operations (Agenda Item 8) – The Committee recommended approval of CSN’s request for a Bachelor of Applied Science in Food Service Operations. This degree is designed to focus on the practical skills, soft skills, leadership, and critical thinking skills used by successful food service supervisors and middle managers. Focusing on the applied nature of this degree, the program will provide students with a rigorous, active learning environment that presents real workplace problems inside the classroom *(Ref. ARSA-8 on file in the Board Office)*.

Dr. Martin provided a brief overview of the proposal. She added that CSN currently has the human resources in place to be able to deliver this program and the instructors teaching the program are already engaged in the world-class hospitality industry in Las Vegas.

Regent Trachok moved approval of a Bachelor of Applied Science in Food Service Operations at CSN. Regent Perkins seconded. Motion carried.

10. Approved-CSN – Program Proposal, BAS Tourism, Convention, and Event Planning (Agenda Item 9) – The Committee recommended approval of CSN’s request for a Bachelor of Applied Science in Tourism, Convention, and Event Planning. This program is a practical, application-oriented degree that will cover the economic, social, and commercial philosophies of tourism, convention and event planning while giving students an opportunity to learn from professionals *(Ref. ARSA-9 on file in the Board Office)*.

10. Approved-CSN – Program Proposal, BAS Tourism, Convention, and Event Planning (Agenda Item 9) – (continued)

Dr. Martin provided a brief overview of the proposal. She noted that just as the two prior program proposals, this program will have the same human resources and budget impact.

Regent Trachok moved approval of a Bachelor of Applied Science in Tourism, Convention, and Event Planning at CSN. Regent McAdoo seconded.

Regent Perkins commented that the proposed culinary programs are an example of how well CSN is responding and collaborating with industry.

Dr. Martin congratulated the faculty, department chair and dean over CSN's hospitality departments.

Chair Geddes encouraged CSN to ensure collaboration with UNLV's hospitality program.

Motion carried.

11. Information Only-New and Existing Program Review (Agenda Item 10) – Senior Analyst for Academic and Student Affairs Terina Caserto presented the first, third and fifth year new academic program reviews and the report on institutional reviews of existing programs as mandated by Board policy (Title 4, Chapter 14, Section 5). In addition, representatives of UNR and TMCC presented the reviews conducted for at least one program at their respective institutions. The presentations included the process for evaluating existing programs generally, indications of quality, whether programs are meeting employer expectations, improvements in student learning outcomes, and any action steps identified based on the review of programs and the status of action steps (Refs. ARSA-10a, ARSA-10b, ARSA-10c and ARSA-10d on file in the Board Office).

Ms. Caserto presented the review of new and existing programs.

Chair Geddes asked a question about TMCC's paramedic program and the anticipated number of 138 enrolled students; however, only eight students were enrolled. Dr. Marie Murgolo, Vice President of Academic Affairs, TMCC, answered when the program was launched TMCC was unaware that the state of Nevada did not require an associate degree for this career which resulted in little student appeal. TMCC has since changed the degree program to a certificate program and there has been a lot more interest. There was a misstep with the alignment of the degree and the industry demand; however, TMCC has rectified that.

Chair Geddes inquired about the UNR graphic design program and the anticipated enrollment of 49 students; however only two students were enrolled.

11. Information Only-New and Existing Program Review (Agenda Item 10) –
(continued)

Dr. Carman answered the graphic design program is and will be a very popular program, it was a bit delayed in getting staffed in terms of faculty and the program launch. UNR anticipates a high demand for this program in the future and the Board should see a significant change in the next report.

Vice Chair Carter commented on WNC's recently approved paramedic program and he suggested in the future if an institution rolls out a new program perhaps there should be a pause until there are metrics for the first year before approving the same type of program at a different institution, especially at institutions that are within close proximity to each other.

Dr. David Shintani, Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education, UNR, provided UNR's report which included: elements of UNR planning and assessment; program review scheduling; general guidelines; annual timeline for reviews; data-driven, holistic review; representative review: Reynolds School of Journalism – innovative curriculum, fall 2019 undergraduate journalism student profile, the Reynold School of Journalism has diversified its faculty to reflect student body, Bachelors of Arts in Journalism Academic Metrics, Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (ACEJMC) external review commendations, ACEJMC external review concerns, principal findings in closing MOU – 3 recommendations made; and upcoming academic review/assessment initiatives.

Dr. Murgolo provided TMCC's report which included: purpose of TMCC's program/unit review (PUR); overview of PUR process; Academic Standards and Assessment (ASA) Review Committee; the PUR Self-Study Report; data utilized; selected program: Business Studies, selected Business Studies data – degrees and certificates granted 2013-2018, 5-year pass rates, retention rates, curriculum mapping, transfer institutions; PUR key findings: Business Studies strengths and weaknesses; and PUR Business Studies goals recommendations and resource process.

Vice Chair Carter thanked TMCC for its collaboration with UNR and commented that perhaps an online business degree should be considered by the NSHE universities and state college to further student opportunity and accessibility.

Pertaining to agenda items 4 and 5, Vice Chair Carter disclosed that he was previously a student in the Gaming Innovation course at UNLV, where he developed a casino game. If the game is marketed and sold, he will be required to pay remuneration to UNLV in the form of shared royalties pursuant to a standard contract that all students in the course were required to sign. He will receive no remuneration from UNLV. He disclosed the relationship under NRS Chapter 281A, as recommended by the Nevada Commission on Ethics. Vice Chair Carter voted on both agenda items 4 and 5.

12. Approved-Corequisite Action Plan, Part II (Agenda Item 11) – The Committee recommended approval of Part II of the action plan developed by the NSHE Corequisite Implementation Task Force charged with supporting institutions in the implementation of the corequisite and gateway policy adopted by the Board at its June 6-7, 2019, meeting. Part II of the action plan includes protocols for enrollment enforcement, training and professional development content and timelines for delivery, a statewide assessment plan, and final branding related to the communications toolkit (*Refs. ARSA-11a and ARSA-11b on file in the Board Office*).

Mr. James McCoy, Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs, CSN, provided an overview of the Corequisite Action Plan, Part II which included: enrollment enforcement protocols; professional development and training for faculty and advisors; assessment plan; communication toolkit; gateway math pathways for Business and Health Science programs; and fiscal and human resources analysis.

Vice Chancellor Abba expressed her gratitude for Mr. McCoy's work on the Corequisite Action Plan. She added that from this Committee meeting forward there will not be regular updates on the Corequisite Action Plan until the implementation is fully underway starting in fall 2021.

Chair Geddes thanked Mr. McCoy for the presentation and congratulated him on his new role at CSN.

Regent Trachok moved approval of the
Corequisite Action Plan, Part II. Regent
McAdoo seconded.

Regent Perkins asked how the budgeting due to the pandemic will affect the corequisite implementation. Vice Chancellor Abba answered that from the standpoint of the work of the taskforce, that discussion took place in March 2020 and the taskforce adopted the motto of "stay the course" because of concerns of losing financial support from Strong Start to Finish and ECMC. The funding from those organizations has been allocated to the NSHE institutions to support the efforts particularly in professional development in preparing faculty for the implementation in fall 2021. Vice Chancellor Abba made note of the upcoming Legislative session and how it is unclear the extent to which the budget cuts will be made, and it is entirely possible that decisions from the Legislature may have an effect on the capacity, but not on actual implementation of the policy.

Chair Geddes commented on the great progress made with transfer, articulation and remediation in the System. He noted there is still work to be done in establishing common gateway math requirements for business and health sciences, and the expectation of the Committee and the full Board is that the common gateway math requirement be established to support a seamless transfer and student success.

Vice Chair Carter asked for more information regarding the advising holds. Mr. McCoy answered that the fall 2021 registration cycle will be ready in a few months and for those institutions that are using advising holds, those will start in

12. Approved-Corequisite Action Plan, Part II (Agenda Item 11) – *(continued)*

time for registration cycles to begin.

Motion carried.

13. Information Only-ACT Nevada High School Class of 2020 Profile Report and NSHE College Readiness Dashboard (Agenda Item 12) – Mr. Bruce Smith, ACT Director of State Partnerships, presented the ACT state profile report that includes information on ACT English, mathematics, reading and science subject scores for the Nevada high school graduating Class of 2020. The report summarized the preparation and performance of Nevada high school graduates who took the ACT as sophomores, juniors, or seniors. In addition, Vice Chancellor Crystal Abba presented the recently developed NSHE data dashboard that includes ACT data for Nevada high school graduates by factors such as diploma type and NSHE institution of enrollment (*Refs. ARSA-12a, ARSA-12b and ARSA-12c on file in the Board Office*).

Mr. Smith provided the ACT State Profile Report for the Nevada high school graduating Class of 2020 which included: an executive summary; academic achievement; college readiness and impact course rigor; career and educational aspirations; and optional test writing results.

Regent McAdoo asked how ACT would be able to assist with increasing the number of waiver students to retake the test. She also expressed curiosity about the ACT contract with the state of Nevada and the procedure for working with counselors and teachers to analyze the data and utilize it to assist students in choosing and/or changing classes in their senior year to help them prepare for college. Mr. Smith answered that ACT works directly with counselors by conducting regularly scheduled workshops which are all encompassing and includes training on working with student waivers.

Regent McAdoo asked a follow-up question regarding how often the training sessions are provided and/or is it only provided when a school district requests it, and then would the training be offered to all school districts in the state. Mr. Smith answered that ACT does advertise all training provided, and currently provides virtual open office hours on Fridays for educators and administrators with questions.

Vice Chancellor Abba provided a report on the NSHE College Readiness Data Dashboard – ACT and High School Diploma Data which included: access information to the data dashboard; remedial enrollment versus college readiness, historical use of institutional placement data and ACT – an alternative to placement flags; Nevada diploma types; dashboard functionality; Nevada high school graduates by diploma type; NSHE capture rate; and Nevada high school graduates enrolling at NSHE.

14. Information Only-New Business – None.

15. Information Only-Public Comment – None.

The meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.

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

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

Approved by the Board of Regents at its March 4-5, 2021, meeting.