

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

Desert Research Institute
Frank H. Rogers Science & Technology Building, Rotunda
755 East Flamingo Road, Las Vegas
Thursday, September 9, 2021

Video Conference Connection from the Meeting Site to:
System Administration, Reno
2601 Enterprise Road, Conference Room
and
Great Basin College, Elko
1500 College Parkway, Berg Hall Conference Room

Members Present:

Dr. Jason Geddes, Chair
Mrs. Carol Del Carlo, Vice Chair
Mr. Joseph C. Arrascada
Dr. Mark W. Doubrava
Ms. Laura E. Perkins

Other Regents Present:

Mrs. Cathy McAdoo, Board Chair
Dr. Patrick R. Carter, Board Vice Chair
Mr. Patrick J. Boylan
Mr. Byron Brooks
Ms. Amy J. Carvalho
Mr. John T. Moran
Dr. Lois Tarkanian

Others Present:

Dr. Melody Rose, Chancellor
Ms. Crystal Abba, Vice Chancellor for Academic & Student Affairs
and Community Colleges
Ms. Keri D. Nikolajewski, Interim Chief of Staff to the Board
Dr. Constance Brooks, Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs
and Advancement
Mr. Caleb Cage, Vice Chancellor for Workforce Development
and Chief Innovation Officer
Mr. Andrew Clinger, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Joseph Reynolds, Chief General Counsel
Ms. Terina Caserto, Senior Analyst, Academic & Student Affairs
Ms. Renee Davis, Associate Vice Chancellor and
Director of Student Affairs
Ms. Yvonne Nevarez-Goodson, Deputy General Counsel
Dr. Federico Zaragoza, CSN President
Dr. Kumud Acharya, DRI President

Others Present: Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, NSC President
 Dr. Karin M. Hilgersom, TMCC President
 Dr. Keith E. Whitfield, UNLV President
 Mr. Brian Sandoval, UNR President
 Dr. Vincent R. Solis, WNC President

Faculty senate chairs in attendance were: Dr. Julian Smit, CSN; Dr. Dave Rhode, DRI; Dr. Samantha Jewell, NSC; Mr. Glenn Heath, System Administration; Dr. Virginia Irintcheva, TMCC; Ms. Shannon Sumpter, UNLV; Dr. Amy Pason, UNR; and Mr. Jim Strange, WNC. Student body presidents in attendance were: Mr. Zachary Johnigan, CSN; Ms. Tessa Espinosa, Executive Vice President, NSC; Ms. Darian Richards, TMCC; Ms. Caren Yap, UNLV-CSUN; Mr. Austin Brown, UNR-ASUN; Mr. Matthew Hawn, UNR-GSA; and Ms. Andrea Sanchez De Loza, WNC.

Chair Jason Geddes called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. with all members present.

1. Information Only-Public Comment – None.
2. Approved-Consent Items – The Committee recommended approval of the consent items.
 - (2a.) Approved-Minutes – The Committee recommended approval of the minutes from the June 10, 2021, meeting (*Ref. ARSA-2a on file in the Board Office*).
 - (2b.) Approved-UNLV – Program Deactivation, MS Exercise Physiology – The Committee recommended approval of UNLV’s request to deactivate the Master of Science in Exercise Physiology. The MS in Exercise Physiology program is similar to that of the Master of Science in Kinesiology. By deactivating the MS in Exercise Physiology, students can be admitted exclusively to the MS in Kinesiology which offers additional flexibility as students opt for either a Thesis Track or Non-Thesis Track (*Ref. ARSA-2b on file in the Board Office*).
 - (2c.) Approved-UNLV – Program Deactivation, Master of Design – The Committee recommended approval of UNLV’s request to deactivate the Master of Design program while updating its curriculum. Currently enrolled students will have the opportunity to complete the program. No new students will be admitted until the program is formally reactivated (*Ref. ARSA-2c on file in the Board Office*).
 - (2d.) Approved-UNLV – Program Elimination, MST Transportation – The Committee recommended approval of UNLV’s request to eliminate the Master of Transportation due to low enrollment and graduates for the last several years (*Ref. ARSA-2d on file in the Board Office*).

2. Approved-Consent Items – (continued)

- (2e.) UNLV – Organizational Unit Elimination, Nevada Center for Advanced Mobility – The Committee recommended approval of UNLV’s request to eliminate the Nevada Center for Advanced Mobility as there is no longer funding to sustain its efforts. There are currently no employees or expenses related to the Center (*Ref. ARSA-2e on file in the Board Office*).

Vice Chair Del Carlo moved approval of the consent items. Regent Perkins seconded. Motion carried.

3. Approved-UNLV – Organizational Unit Proposal, Patent and Trademark Resource Center – The Committee recommended approval of the creation of the Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC) within the UNLV University Libraries. The PTRC will serve as a centralized resource for faculty, staff, students, and members of the local community to receive assistance in the establishment of intellectual property through access to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office resources and training (*Ref. ARSA-3 on file in the Board Office*).

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

Regent Perkins asked how the PTRC would integrate with the Harry Reid Research and Technology Park (Black Fire Innovation). Executive Vice President and Provost Heavey said one of the key partners in this proposal is the academic development team centered at the Harry Reid Research and Technology Park. Not only will there be collaboration between the PTRC and the Harry Reid Research and Technology Park, the PTRC will also be working with existing partners of the Research and Technology Park, along with community outreach.

Regent Perkins moved approval of the creation of the Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC) within the UNLV University Libraries. Regent Arrascada seconded. Motion carried.

4. Approved-UNR – Program Proposal, BS Kinesiology – The Committee recommended approval of a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology at UNR. The Kinesiology curriculum has been offered since 2014 as a specialization in the BS in Community Health Sciences. Converting the Kinesiology specialization to a major will help clarify the distinction between it and the Public Health curriculum and will help students envision a clearer path toward future education and careers (*Ref. ARSA-4 on file in the Board Office*).

Dr. Jeffrey Thompson, UNR Executive Vice President and Provost; and Dean, College of Science, provided a brief overview of the proposal.

Vice Chair Del Carlo moved approval of a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology at UNR. Regent Perkins seconded. Motion carried.

5. Approved-UNR – Program Proposal, BS Public Health – The Committee recommended approval of a Bachelor of Science in Public Health at UNR. The Public Health specialization under the BS in Community Health Sciences has been offered since 2014. The proposal is to convert the specialization into a major. The BS in Public Health will prepare students for jobs in local or state health departments for non-profit businesses, community-based organizations, clinical settings, and academic settings (*Ref. ARSA-5 on file in the Board Office*).

Executive Vice President and Provost Thompson provided a brief overview of the proposal.

Regent Doubrava moved approval of a Bachelor of Science in Public Health at UNR. Vice Chair Del Carlo seconded. Motion carried.

6. Approved-NSC – Program Proposal, BS Chemistry – The Committee recommended approval of a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry at NSC. The proposed BS in Chemistry will prepare students for career success in an array of fields and will deliver a strong foundation in different facets of chemistry with a particular focus on medical/biological aspects of chemistry (*Ref. ARSA-6 on file in the Board Office*).

Dr. Vickie Shields, NSC Provost and Executive Vice President, provided a brief overview of the proposal.

Regent Arrascada moved approval of a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry at NSC. Regent Perkins seconded. Motion carried.

7. Approved-CSN – Program Proposal, AA Computer Science – The Committee recommended approval of an Associate of Arts in Computer Science at CSN. The proposed program is a general transfer degree program designed for students who are planning to transfer to baccalaureate-level institutions. This major will also provide employment opportunities for students upon completion (*Ref. ARSA-7 on file in the Board Office*).

Mr. James McCoy, CSN Vice President of Academic Affairs, provided a brief overview of the proposal.

Vice Chair Del Carlo moved approval of an Associate of Arts in Computer Science at CSN. Regent Arrascada seconded. Motion carried.

8. Approved-TMCC – Program Proposals, Associate of Arts – The Committee recommended approval of the following emphases to be converted to a primary field of study at TMCC:

- Associate of Arts in Business (*Ref. ARSA-8a on file in the Board Office*)
- Associate of Arts in Entrepreneurship (*Ref. ARSA-8b on file in the Board Office*)
- Associate of Arts in Political Science (*Ref. ARSA-8c on file in the Board Office*)
- Associate of Arts in Social Work (*Ref. ARSA-8d on file in the Board Office*)

Dr. Jeffrey Alexander, TMCC Vice President of Academic Affairs, provided a brief overview of the proposals.

Regent Doubrava moved approval of the following Associate of Arts programs at TMCC: Business; Entrepreneurship; Political Science; and Social Work. Regent Arrascada seconded.

Regent Arrascada commented on the significant impact the establishment of these programs will have on NSHE students and the Nevada workforce, and shared his support of the proposals.

Motion carried.

9. Information Only-2019-20 NSHE Financial Aid Report – Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Renee Davis presented highlights from the 2019-20 NSHE Financial Aid Report, including data on financial aid programs and awards distributed across the System. In addition, the presentation included general information on the variety of federal aid programs available to support students (*Refs. ARSA-9a and ARSA-9b on file in the Board Office*).

9. Information Only-2019-20 NSHE Financial Aid Report – *(continued)*

Associate Vice Chancellor Davis provided a report which included: an overview of the NSHE's Five Strategic Goals; the purposes of reporting on financial aid; the NSHE total financial aid disbursed (in millions); NSHE total aid disbursed by institution, 2015-16 to 2019-20 (in millions); NSHE financial aid recipients by race/ethnicity and institution, 2019-20; NSHE average annual Pell Grant disbursements (by student); total disbursements – all sources (in millions); NSHE total loan disbursement – all sources (in millions); Nevada student financial assistance programs, 2019-20 disbursements (dollars in millions); Silver State Opportunity Grant and Nevada Promise Scholarship reports; financial aid basics: concepts and FAFSA; categories of financial aid: grants, loans, work study and scholarships; sources of financial aid: federal, state, institutional and private; types of financial aid: need and non-need; Cost of Attendance (COA): off campus, with parents, on campus; overview of FAFSA; and Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF I).

At the request of Chair Geddes, Assistant Vice Chancellor Davis provided an overview of the student access funds that each institution sets aside based on a certain percentage of its registration fees. In addition to the registration fees, some of the money for the student access funds comes from State Supported Operating Budget.

Chair Geddes requested more information regarding the recently passed legislation to assist students with the FAFSA process. Associate Vice Chancellor Davis explained that the bill entails that high schools communicate with the students on what opportunities are available for receiving FAFSA information and high schools are also supposed to offer training and informational sessions on the FAFSA to students. This bill reinforces the work that the NSHE institutions have been doing.

Regent Arrascada thanked Associate Vice Chancellor Davis for the presentation. He asked if there is financial aid recipient data available for students with disabilities as he believes that demographic of students is one of the most underrepresented groups. Associate Vice Chancellor Davis concurred with Regent Arrascada and shared that financial aid data for disabled students has not been collected at this time; however, they are looking into exploring the feasibility of collecting that data for future reports.

In response to an inquiry from Regent Carvalho regarding the annual Pell Grant disbursements, Associate Vice Chancellor Davis confirmed that the data presented is the average of all students receiving the grant and further clarified that should there be any excess grant money, the institutions work to distribute those funds to students in need.

10. Information Only-Corequisite Implementation – Brandon Protas, Strategy Director, Complete College America (CCA); Anne Flesher, Dean, TMCC Division of Math and Physical Sciences; and Laura Decker, Assistant Professor of English, NSC presented on the NSHE implementation of corequisite instruction. The presentation included highlights of the mathematics and English corequisite implementation experience across the System and the support received by institutions from CCA. Board policy (*Title 4, Chapter 16, Section 1*) adopted in June 2019 required NSHE institution to implement corequisite instruction at full-scale by Fall 2021 (*Ref. ARSA-10 on file in the Board Office*).

Vice Chancellor Abba provided background information on the NSHE corequisite implementation and introductory comments related to the upcoming presentation.

Dr. Protas, Ms. Flesher and Dr. Decker provided a report which included: corequisite 101: the traditional prerequisite remedial model and the corequisite support model; the CCA model to scale successful reform: shifting policy, creating conditions for change and implementing proven strategies; corequisite timeline; NSHE Corequisite Implementation Taskforce membership; a system approach entailing NSHE Corequisite Implementation Taskforce resources, System resources and national resources; NSHE's pilot year in math: old pathways, new pathways, corequisite math professional development series, aligning resources with needs, and TMCC's approach and pilot year; corequisite English experiences at NSC and across the NSHE; NSHE corequisite English and professional development webinars; corequisite English activities at NSC; corequisite English at NSC – supporting students and faculty; NSC faculty feedback regarding the corequisite initiatives; and updates from across the NSHE.

Chair Geddes, Vice Chair Del Carlo, Board Chair McAdoo, Board Vice Chair Carter and Regent Carvalho offered compliments and gratitude to the NSHE Corequisite Implementation Taskforce and the institutional faculty for their support and buy-in which made the corequisite implementation successful thus far.

Vice Chancellor Abba and Dr. Protas discussed and addressed questions from the Regents regarding: corequisite funding, student access to college, faculty contributions to the corequisite implementation across the NSHE institutions, attendance at the professional development series for math and English, and the NSHE's shared governance model.

Vice Chair Del Carlo requested that the students who went through the corequisite model report on their experiences at a future Committee meeting. Chair Geddes agreed and said he would add that to New Business.

11. Information Only-NSHE Foster Youth Waiver Program – Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs and Community Colleges Crystal Abba provided background and introduced Laura Obrist, Foster Youth Ambassador, NSHE, who presented a report on the foster youth waiver, adopted by the Board of Regents in June 2019. The waiver allows certain foster youth to register at any NSHE institution without registration and certain laboratory fees. The report included information on the number of students that have received the waiver and the total dollar amount by institution that has been waived since the program’s inception (*Refs. ARSA-11a and ARSA-11b*).

Ms. Obrist provided a report which included: fee waiver implementation; fee waiver recipients and cost for years 1, 2, and 3; return on investment matters; and the NSHE Foster Youth Success Initiative: grant support and progress highlights.

Vice Chair Del Carlo asked how students are identified for the program. Ms. Obrist answered that it is a constant process of improving on identifying students which entails adding a question on admissions applications, partnerships with foster programs in the community, collaboration with financial aid offices on the NSHE campuses, community outreach from the NSHE institutions and so forth.

Regent Carvalho emphasized the importance of the NSHE Foster Youth Waiver Program, and thanked Ms. Obrist and her team for their work on this, and also extended her gratitude to the Walter S. Johnson Foundation for the financial contributions to the program.

12. Information Only-New Business – Vice Chair Del Carlo requested that students who went through the corequisite model for math and English report on their experiences at a future Committee meeting.
13. Information Only-Public Comment – None.

The meeting adjourned at 10:02 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 December 2-3, 2021, meeting.