

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

Nevada State College
Rogers Student Center, Ballroom
1300 Nevada State Drive #300, Henderson
Friday, March 4, 2022

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. Mark W. Doubrava, Chair
Dr. Patrick R. Carter, Vice Chair
Mr. Patrick J. Boylan
Mr. Byron Brooks
Mr. John T. Moran
Dr. Lois Tarkanian

Other Regents Present:

Mrs. Cathy McAdoo, Board Chair
Ms. Amy J. Carvalho
Mrs. Carol Del Carlo
Dr. Jason Geddes
Mr. Donald Sylvantee McMichael Sr.
Ms. Laura E. Perkins

Others Present:

Dr. Melody Rose, Chancellor
Ms. Crystal Abba, Vice Chancellor, Academic & Student Affairs
and Community Colleges
Ms. Keri D. Nikolajewski, Interim Chief of Staff to the Board
Dr. Constance Brooks, Vice Chancellor of Public Affairs
and Advancement
Mr. Caleb Cage, Vice Chancellor for Workforce Development
and Chief Innovation Officer
Mr. Joseph Reynolds, Chief General Counsel
Dr. Federico Zaragoza, CSN President
Dr. Kumud Acharya, DRI President
Ms. Joyce M. Helens, GBC President
Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, NSC President
Dr. Karin M. Hilgersom, TMCC President
Dr. Keith E. Whitfield, UNLV President
Mr. Brian Sandoval, UNR President
Dr. J. Kyle Dalpe, WNC Interim President

Faculty senate chairs in attendance were: Dr. Julian Smit, CSN; Dr. Dave Rhode, DRI; Mr. Kevin Seipp, GBC; 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; Mr. Zachary Stamp, GBC; Ms. Lauren Porter, NSC; Ms. Darian Richards, TMCC; Ms. Caren Yap, UNLV-CSUN; Ms. Nicole Thomas, UNLV-GPSA; Mr. Austin Brown, UNR-ASUN; Mr. Matthew Hawn, UNR-GSA; and Ms. Andrea Sanchez De Loza, WNC.

Chair Mark W. Doubrava called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. with all members present.

1. Information Only-Public Comment – None.
2. Approved-Minutes – The Committee recommended approval of the minutes from the September 10, 2021, meeting (*Ref: HSS-2 on file in the Board Office*).

Regent Moran moved approval of the minutes from the September 10, 2021, meeting. Vice Chair Carter seconded. Motion carried.

3. Information Only-Chair's Report – Chair Mark W. Doubrava provided remarks highlighting the health sciences schools and programs and offered a sincere thank you to everyone who stepped forward during the pandemic. It truly showed the importance and value of health science programs throughout the state.
4. Information Only-NSHE COVID-19 Guidance Overview and Information Update – Cheryl Hug-English, M.D., Director, UNR Student Health; Amber Donnelly, Ph.D., RN, CNE, Dean, Health Science Human Services, GBC; and Adam Garcia, Director, University Police Services, Southern Command, or their designees, each gave an update on recent COVID-19 developments at the NSHE institutions and within the communities in their respective regions.

Amber Donnelly, Ph.D., RN, CNE, Dean, Health Science Human Services, GBC, provided an update regarding rural areas and efforts related to COVID-19 which included: the recent work of the COVID-19 Task Force; the highest caseload was 700 active cases in a day, noting that since then the case numbers were decreasing; and the importance of focusing on vaccinations while remaining diligent in vaccine efforts.

Gregg Maye, Assistant Director for Emergency Management, presented on behalf of Adam Garcia, Director, University Police Services, Southern Command. He provided an update on COVID-19 for the southern Nevada institutions including: COVID-19 testing and vaccinations; the significant decrease of COVID-19 cases which is mirroring trends across the US; the confirmed case count decrease in Clark County as well as on the NSHE campuses. Assistant Director Maye also reported that Director Garcia is currently working with PEBP, Department of Health and Human Services and the NSHE institutions' human resources departments to create processes and protocols with PEBP to provide testing for those employees who have not been vaccinated.

4. Information Only-NSHE COVID-19 Guidance Overview and Information Update
– (continued)

Mr. Joseph Reynolds, Chief General Counsel, read prepared remarks submitted by Dr. Cheryl Hug-English, Director, UNR Student Health, (as she was not able to attend in-person) regarding recent COVID-19 developments and responses involving Washoe County and the UNR campus which included: the Delta and Omicron variants; the increased infectivity with the highest COVID-19 numbers in the state and on NSHE campuses; trends in vaccination rates; availability of testing and treatment options; and a statement about how vaccination remains the most perfect tool in combatting severe illness.

Regent Geddes commented at the previous meeting he requested that metrics be gathered for COVID-19 cases on NSHE campuses for the purpose of establishing productive solutions on how to handle the virus as it transitions from pandemic to endemic.

5. Information Only-UNLV Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine Report – Dr. Marc J. Kahn, Dean of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine, provided a report on the Medical School and Practice Plan, and offered general remarks which included information relating to programs and funding (Ref. HSS-5 on file in the Board Office).

Dean Kahn provided a report that included: announcements involving the anticipated late summer opening of the Medical Education Building, strategic planning for the Academic Health Center, obtained gifts for two endowed chairs – Orthopedics and Ob/GYN, and a leadership change in the Practice Plan; academic affairs relating to new degree programs, overall student progress, and upcoming events; admissions report – applicants, scheduled interviews and students accepted; Graduate Medical Education; research; diversity and inclusion efforts; development; UNLV Health – Faculty Practice Plan; the number of COVID-19 vaccines administered by the medical school as of December 31, 2021; and strategic goals for the Practice Plan.

Regent Perkins and Dean Kahn discussed the residency program and how the Regents can support and help garner more residents for the state of Nevada.

6. Information Only-UNR School of Medicine Report – Dr. Melissa Piasecki, Acting Dean of the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine, provided a report on the Medical School and offered general remarks which included information relating to programs and project funding (Ref. HSS-6 on file in the Board Office).

Acting Dean Piasecki provided a report which included: the UNR Med Sanford Center for Aging; the Nevada Health Workforce Research Center; research: the impact of aging and Alzheimer’s disease on the auditory system, and molecular and cellular signaling in the cardiovascular system; student outreach clinics; building pathways to medicine: “See It to Be It Program”; and Renown updates

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

including the Pediatrics Residency Program Planning and the Office of Clinical Education.

Chair Doubrava, Board Chair McAdoo, Regent Del Carlo, Regent Geddes and Acting Dean Piasecki addressed and discussed the following topics: potential CMS funding of residency programs; general range of cost for funding residency programs and resident salaries – typically dependent on type of residency and location; and recent GME Roundtable meetings and updates.

7. Information Only-UNLV School of Dental Medicine Report – Dr. Lily T. Garcia, Dean, UNLV School of Dental Medicine, provided a report and offered general remarks on activities involving the UNLV School of Dental Medicine, including activities that have occurred under new leadership, best practices, mission alignment within UNLV, and vision moving forward.

Dean Garcia provided a report which included: the impact of COVID-19 and related budget challenges; as of February 24, 2021, the school has been given full accreditation without reporting requirements; updates on faculty recruitment and retention; and information on funding, grants and proposals that sustain the operation.

Chair Doubrava, Regent Boylan, Board Chair McAdoo, Regent Del Carlo and Dean Garcia addressed and discussed the following topics: the development of a 4-year plan for rural outreach; faculty volunteer dental work for the community; and partnership with the VA to provide veterans with free dental care.

8. Information Only-New Business – Regent Geddes requested metrics for COVID-19 cases on the NSHE campuses.

Board Chair McAdoo requested an update from Regent Geddes on the GME Roundtable.

9. Information Only-Public Comment – None.

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 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 September 8-9, 2022, meeting.