

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

University of Nevada, Reno  
Joe Crowley Student Union, Milt Glick Ballrooms B & C  
87 West Stadium Way, Reno  
Thursday, June 8, 2023

Video Conference Connection from the Meeting Site to:  
System Administration, Las Vegas  
4300 South Maryland Parkway, Board Room  
and  
Great Basin College, Elko  
1500 College Parkway, Berg Hall Conference Room

Members Present:

Mr. Joseph C. Arrascada, Chair  
Mrs. Carol Del Carlo, Vice Chair  
Dr. Michelee Cruz-Crawford  
Ms. Stephanie Goodman  
Mr. Donald Sylvantee McMichael Sr.

Other Regents Present:

Ms. Heather Brown  
Mrs. Amy J. Carvalho  
Mr. Jeffrey S. Downs  
Ms. Laura E. Perkins

Others Present:

Mr. Dale A.R. Erquiaga, Acting Chancellor  
Ms. Keri D. Nikolajewski, Interim Chief of Staff to the Board  
Ms. Patricia Charlton, Acting Vice Chancellor for Academic and  
Student Affairs and Community Colleges  
Mr. Andrew Clinger, Chief Financial Officer  
Ms. Renée Davis, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic and  
Student Affairs  
Ms. Terina Caserto, Senior Analyst  
Ms. Marcie Jackson, Director of Nevada System Sponsored Programs  
and EPSCoR  
Ms. Carrie Parker, Deputy General Counsel  
Mr. Craig M. Burkett, Deputy Attorney General  
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 President

Faculty senate chairs in attendance were: Ms. Tracy Sherman, CSN; Dr. Brittany Kruger, DRI; Mr. David Sexton, GBC; Dr. Molly Appel, NSC; Mr. Ed Boog, SA; Dr. Bill Robinson, UNLV; Dr. Eric Marchand, UNR; and Ms. Rachelle Bassen, WNC. Student body presidents in attendance were: Mr. Pio Rejas, CSN; Mr. Kevin Osorio Hernández, NSC; Mr. Brayson Gomez, TMCC; Ms. Makayla Franklin, UNLV-CSUN; Ms. Teresa Marie, UNLV-GPSA Treasurer (*proxy for Nicole Thomas*); Mr. Boris Carpio Guerra, UNR-ASUN; Mr. Matthew Hawn, UNR-GSA; and Ms. Suzanna Stankute, WNC.

Chair Joseph C. Arrascada called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. with all members present. Regent Cruz-Crawford provided the Land Acknowledgement and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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 March 9, 2023, meeting (*Ref. ARSA-2a on file in the Board office*).

(2b.) Approved-GBC – Program Elimination, AAS, Computer Technologies, Graphic Communication – The Committee recommended approval to eliminate the Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Computer Technologies, Graphic Communication due to low yield. A teach-out plan offers courses as needed to allow currently admitted students to complete the program requirements. The elimination will not impact staff or full-time faculty, as courses related to other programs will continue to be offered (*Ref. ARSA-2b on file in the Board office*).

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

3. Approved-UNLV – Organizational Unit Proposal, Kerestesi Center for Insurance and Risk Management – The Committee recommended approval to establish the Kerestesi Center for Insurance and Risk Management within the Lee Business School with financial support from the Nevada Surplus Lines Foundation. The Center will provide the education, experiential learning, and career exposure needed to prepare students for success in the insurance and risk management industry. The goal of establishing the Center is for UNLV to be home to the premier academic insurance and risk management program in the West, supporting both student and faculty in this pursuit (*Ref. ARSA-3 on file in the Board office*).

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

3. Approved-UNLV – Organizational Unit Proposal, Kerestesi Center for Insurance and Risk Management – *(continued)*

Vice Chair Del Carlo commended the UNLV team for their work on the program.

Chair Arrascada and Dr. Heavey addressed and discussed the following topics: career opportunities in the insurance and risk management industry; the Kerestesi Center for Insurance and Risk Management will work to raise the visibility of this career possibility by having events on the UNLV campus and at high schools, and also by bringing in career professionals to talk to current business students about the existing opportunities within the industry; creating connections between the business industry and the UNLV students with paid internships, mentorships and creating job opportunities for new graduates; current and future funding for summer research grants and other types of seed funding; and the estimated enrollment over three to five years for the program.

Regent McMichael moved approval of establishing the Kerestesi Center for Insurance and Risk Management within the UNLV Lee Business School. Vice Chair Del Carlo seconded. Motion carried.

4. Approved-UNR – Program Proposals, MPH and PHD Epidemiology – The Committee recommended approval of a Master of Public Health (MPH) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Epidemiology. These free-standing majors are being converted from specializations in Public Health programs. UNR recently became accredited as a School of Public Health by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) and it is customary for Schools of Public Health to offer free-standing PhD and MPH degree programs in Epidemiology. This conversion will result in more marketable degrees for students that more accurately reflect their training (*Ref. ARSA-4 on file in the Board office*).

Dr. Jeffrey Thompson, UNR Executive Vice President and Provost, provided a brief overview of the proposals.

Chair Arrascada and Dr. Thompson discussed the FTE projections for the programs.

Regent Goodman moved approval of a Master of Public Health (MPH) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Epidemiology at UNR. Vice Chair Del Carlo seconded.

Regent Carvalho and Dr. Thompson discussed how the Nevada State Public Health Laboratory and the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services will work closely with UNR on research projects and training for the students in these programs.

4. Approved-UNR – Program Proposals, MPH and PHD Epidemiology – (continued)

Motion carried.

5. Approved-UNR – Program Proposal, BA Social Research Analytics – The Committee recommended approval of a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Social Research Analytics that will provide students with a degree that prepares them for well-paying and meaningful careers upon completion. Graduates of this program will possess a repertoire of qualitative and quantitative skills in social science research methods and statistics that prepare them for a variety of careers in the public and private sectors, or for graduate-level work in the social sciences (Ref. ARSA-5 on file in the Board office).

Dr. Thompson provided a brief overview of the proposal.

Regent Cruz-Crawford and Regent Perkins shared their support for the program.

Regent Cruz-Crawford moved approval of a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Social Research Analytics at UNR. Regent McMichael seconded. Motion carried.

6. Approved-NSC – Program Proposal, MS Nursing Leadership – The Committee recommended approval of a Master of Science (MS) in Nursing Leadership offering an innovative curriculum with a leadership focus to prepare working registered nurses for advancement into leadership and managerial positions within the clinical setting. The fully online didactic coursework affords students the opportunity to continue working while completing a degree. The MS in Nursing Leadership will prepare students to sit for the American Nursing Credentialing Center Nurse Executive Certification examination (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 Carvalho congratulated Dr. Shields on her upcoming retirement. She asked if there is any intention to seek differential fees for the proposed program. Mr. Kevin Butler, NSC Senior Vice President for Finance and Business Operations, answered that currently differential fees are not being contemplated for the program.

Chair Arrascada and Dr. Shields discussed the following topics: the Nurse Executive Certification exam; existing faculty members that will support the program and future recruitment; and the program commencing in January 2024, along with the FTE. He thanked Dr. Shields for her commitment to the NSHE over the years.

6. Approved-NSC – Program Proposal, MS Nursing Leadership – (continued)

Vice Chair Del Carlo moved approval of a Master of Science (MS) in Nursing Leadership at NSC. Regent McMichael seconded. Motion carried.

7. Approved-CSN – Organizational Unit Proposal, Center of Excellence for Advanced Manufacturing – The Committee recommended approval to establish the new Center of Excellence for Advanced Manufacturing to be located at the Debra March Center of Excellence. The Center is a collaborative effort between the City of Henderson and industry partners. The Center will house training to include CSN's credit and non-credit instruction in Advance Manufacturing with a focus on workforce development, industry specific training with industry partners, and industry appropriate community events (*Ref. ARSA-7 on file in the Board office*).

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

Chair Arrascada, Vice Chair Del Carlo and Regent Carvalho commended CSN and the community partners for their work on the Center of Excellence and how it will greatly contribute to the workforce in southern Nevada.

Vice Chair Del Carlo moved approval of establishing the new Center of Excellence for Advanced Manufacturing. Regent Goodman seconded. Motion carried.

8. Approved-GBC/UNR – Organizational Unit Proposal, Mining Center of Excellence – The Committee recommended approval to establish the Mining Center of Excellence to be housed in GBC's Mining Center. The Mining Center of Excellence plans to attract more people into the mining industry by offering outreach programs; engaging with the community and mining industry; offering dual credit high school certificates using hybrid delivery with emphasis on geology, mining and metallurgy; and upskilling courses for employees. This will be done in close cooperation between GBC and UNR (*Ref. ARSA-8 on file in the Board office*).

Mr. Jake Rivera, GBC Vice President of Student and Academic Affairs, provided a brief overview of the proposal.

Regent Cruz-Crawford, Regent Goodman and Regent Carvalho addressed and discussed the following topics: international recognition of GBC's mining program; the program serving the full spectrum of educational needs in the state of Nevada; and the Regents' support for the Mining Center, and appreciation for GBC and UNR's collaboration on the project.

8. Approved-GBC/UNR – Organizational Unit Proposal, Mining Center of Excellence – (continued)

Vice Chair Del Carlo moved approval of establishing the Mining Center of Excellence at GBC. Regent McMichael seconded. Motion carried.

9. Approved-WNC – Program Proposal, AAS Mechatronics and Electronics Technology – The Committee recommended approval of an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Mechatronics and Electronics Technology providing a solid foundation in either discipline and allowing flexibility to explore a specialty. The proposed AAS represents the collapse of two existing AAS programs into a single opportunity. Students completing this program will be prepared to enter the manufacturing workforce in high-demand technician positions (*Ref. ARSA-9 on file in the Board office*).

Dr. Dana Ryan, WNC Interim Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs, provided a brief overview of the proposal.

Chair Arrascada and Dr. Ryan discussed the program's FTE and existing faculty that will be supporting the program.

Regent McMichael moved approval of an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Mechatronics and Electronics Technology at WNC. Regent Goodman seconded. Motion carried.

10. Information Only-2021-22 Sponsored Funding Report – Director of Nevada System Sponsored Programs and EPSCoR Marcie Jackson presented highlights from the 2021-22 NSHE Sponsored Funding Annual Report. The report included information on sponsored program awards and expenditures for all NSHE institutions (*Refs. ARSA-10a and ARSA-10b on file in the Board office*).

Ms. Jackson provided a report which included: FY 2018 – FY 2022 total awards; COVID-19 pandemic response funding for FY 2022; funding distribution of NSHE 2021-2022 awards; the totals awarded for FY 2018-2022 for UNLV, UNR, DRI, NSC, CSN, GBC, TMCC and WNC; intra-system collaborations and proposals submitted for FY 2022; distribution of state program matching funds for FY 2022; and the 2021-2022 Sponsored Programs Annual Report.

Chair Arrascada, Vice Chair Del Carlo, Regent Carvalho, Mr. Dale A.R. Erquiaga, Acting Chancellor, and Ms. Jackson addressed and discussed the following topics: grant collaboration among the institutions; including a breakdown of HSI and MSI grants in future reports; and the public service and scholarship increase in 2021 at UNR.

11. Information Only-New Business – Vice Chair Arrascada stated the Board will continue to receive the legislative updates and finalization of bills related to the Committee, and those updates will be relayed to the System and campuses.
12. Information Only-Public Comment – None.

The meeting adjourned at 10:19 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, 2023, meeting.**