

Minutes approved by the Board of Regents at the December 4-5, 2024, meeting.

**BOARD OF REGENTS and its
AUDIT, COMPLIANCE AND TITLE IX COMMITTEE
NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

Western Nevada College
Aspen Building, Carson Nugget Hall
2201 West College Parkway, Carson City

Thursday, September 5, 2024

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
Dr. Michelee Cruz-Crawford, Vice Chair
Mr. Patrick J. Boylan
Mrs. Susan Brager
Mrs. Carol Del Carlo

Other Regents Present:

Mrs. Amy J. Carvalho, Board Chair
Ms. Heather Brown
Mr. Donald Sylvantee McMichael Sr.
Ms. Laura E. Perkins

Others Present:

Ms. Patricia Charlton, Interim Chancellor
Dr. Daniel Archer, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student
Affairs
Ms. Lynda P. King, Senior Associate General Counsel
Mr. Christopher G. Nielsen, Special Counsel to the Board of
Regents
Ms. Keri D. Nikolajewski, Chief of Staff to the Board of Regents
Ms. Carrie L. Parker, Deputy General Counsel
Mr. Alejandro Rodriguez, Director of Government Relations
Ms. Lauren Tripp, Interim Chief Internal Auditor
Mr. Chris Viton, Vice Chancellor, Budget and Finance and Chief
Financial Officer
Mr. Michael B. Wixom, Special Counsel to the Board of Regents
Dr. William L. Kibler, Acting President, CSN
Dr. Kumud Acharya, President, DRI
Dr. Amber Donnelly, Interim President, GBC

Others Present:

(Continued)

Dr. DeRionne Pollard, President, NSU
Dr. Karin M. Hilgersom, President, TMCC
Dr. Keith E. Whitfield, President, UNLV
Mr. Brian Sandoval, President, UNR
Dr. J. Kyle Dalpe, President, WNC

Faculty senate chairs in attendance included the following individuals: Ms. Valerie Conner, CSN (*Chair, Council of Faculty Senate Chairs*); Dr. Maureen McCarthy, DRI; Mr. David Sexton, GBC; Dr. David Cooper, NSU; Dr. Jinger Doe, TMCC; Dr. Deborah Arteaga, UNLV; Mr. Aaron Hill, UNR; and Mr. Martin Schmidt, WNC. Student body presidents in attendance included the following individuals: Ms. Janeth Vences-Balvas, ASCSN President, CSN; Mr. Allister Dias, CSUN President, UNLV; Ms. Teresa Marie, GPSA President, UNLV; and Ms. Tania Akter, GSA President, UNR. Classified council chair in attendance included: Ms. Stacy Wallace, NSU, ex-officio.

Land Acknowledgment

Before beginning, we take a moment to recognize that here in Nevada we stand on the land of the Wa She Shu – Washoe; Numu – Northern Paiute; Nuwe – Western Shoshone; and Nuwu – Southern Paiute. We take a moment to recognize and honor their stewardship that continues into today. With this recognition, we state an intention to rightfully include their voice and respect them as the 27 sovereign tribal nations of Nevada.

Chair Arrascada called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m. with all members present except Vice Chair Cruz-Crawford. Regent Del Carlo led the Pledge of Allegiance and Chair Arrascada read the land acknowledgement.

1. Information Only – Public Comment

Vice Chair Cruz-Crawford entered the meeting.

Regent Brager provided public comment on behalf of Clark County Commissioner Marilyn Kirkpatrick related to her great relationship with the Cooperative Extension as a County Commissioner and the value that Cooperative Extension brings to the community.

Kent Ervin provided in-person public comment regarding Title IX regulations voicing concerns that faculty as mandatory reporters is counterproductive and violates students' autonomy, and that there is an urgent need for uniform systemwide statistical reporting of complaints, investigative outcomes, and final dispositions.

Deborah Arteaga provided in-person public comment about her daughter's favorable experience attending CSN High School.

2. Approved – Consent Items – The Committee recommended approval of the consent items.

2a. Approved – Minutes – The Committee recommended approval of the June 6, 2024, meeting minutes. (*Ref. A-2a on file in the Board Office.*)

2. Approved – Consent Items – (Continued)

- 2b. Approved – Follow-Up: Hosting, DRI – The Committee recommended approval of the follow-up responses to the audit report of DRI Hosting for the period July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. (*Ref. A-2b on file in the Board Office.*)

Regent Del Carlo moved approval of the consent items. Regent Brager seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

3. Information Only – Chair’s Report – Chair Joseph C. Arrascada provided an update on the Chief Internal Auditor Search and the Internal Audit Manager Search.

(*Audit Summary on file in the Board Office.*)

4. Approved – Follow-Up: Cooperative Extension, UNR – The Committee recommended approval of the institutional follow-up responses to the UNR Cooperative Extension audit for the period July 1, 2021, through December 31, 2022. (*Refs. A-4a and A-4b on file in the Board Office.*)

UNR Director of Extension and CABNR Associate Dean for Engagement Jacob DeDecker provided a presentation titled, “Strengthening Nevada Through Extension” related to partnerships and extension’s impact throughout the state.

Regent Del Carlo stated she is a big supporter of Cooperative Extension and as a kid, she took classes and attended 4-H camp in Lake Tahoe. In response to a question from Regent Del Carlo asking whether it is a statewide effort in other states, Director DeDecker responded yes, there is a state system with a state office that operates 4-H in the counties and territories within the state. Regent Del Carlo noted she had heard talk about breaking up Cooperative Extension within Nevada, which she was not in favor of if Extension continues to meet the needs of the state.

Chair Arrascada asked how many counties the Cooperative Extension has a physical presence in. Director DeDecker noted that Esmeralda County is the only one where Cooperative Extension does not have a physical presence, but those residents receive resources through Nye County in Tonopah. In response to a question from Chair Arrascada related to staffing, Director DeDecker stated Clark County has approximately 155 staff members, and the rest of the staff is disbursed throughout the state to serve the needs of residents.

Chair Arrascada asked Director DeDecker if Cooperative Extension had created a plan related to employee reimbursement of expenses. Director DeDecker stated travel is a regular part of Cooperative Extension to be present within the communities. A template has been created to provide additional detail on how travel decisions are made to be clear on what is transpiring.

4. Approved – Follow-Up: Cooperative Extension, UNR – (Continued)

Regent Brager stated she also participated in 4-H. She requested information on how many students currently participate in 4-H. Director DeDecker stated he would be happy to provide the information after the meeting, including a breakdown by county, club, in-school, and after-school programming.

Regent Perkins thanked Director DeDecker for the presentation and the responsiveness for each county. She added that even as an urban student she participated in 4-H.

Regent Brager moved approval of the institutional follow-up responses to the UNR Cooperative Extension audit for the period July 1, 2021, through December 31, 2022. Regent Del Carlo seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

5. Approved – Special Course and Differential Program Fees, TMCC – The Committee recommended approval of the report and institutional responses to the TMCC Special Course and Differential Program Fees audit for the period of July 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023. (Ref. A-5 on file in the Board Office.)

Interim Chief Internal Auditor Lauren Tripp presented the report and institutional responses to the TMCC Special Course and Differential Program Fees audit for the period of July 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023.

Chair Arrascada thanked Interim Chief Internal Auditor Tripp for the presentation. He stated the institutional responses were well done and recognized TMCC President Hilgersom and her team.

Chair Arrascada stated that TMCC created a special course fee balance report to track starting and ending balances and revenues and spending. He asked for follow-up as to why the Board had not received the report. TMCC President Hilgersom stated they would provide additional follow-up. Vice President of Finance and Government Relations Mike Peyerl added that TMCC created the internal tracking mechanism so they could look at each of the special course fees to determine if it was meeting the standard. TMCC is happy to provide the documents.

Regent Del Carlo stated that it is important for all the institutions to keep an eye on the differential fees, due to problems in the past with excess student fees that were not being spent.

In response to a question from Chair Arrascada related to the last time the fees were audited, Interim Chief Internal Auditor Tripp believed it was around 2013 and cycled into 2015 because each institution was audited. She recommended a review of all fees.

5. Approved – Special Course and Differential Program Fees, TMCC – (Continued)

Chief Financial Officer Viton offered that in addition to these audits, the Board has an annual reporting cycle in December where it receives a summary of fee balances by campus. He believed it was an opportunity to hear from campuses about the balances. Expanded reporting is in process so the Board will see capital and general improvement fees in addition to the special course fee categories. The policy contemplates the campus reporting on the balances, having plans for the use of the balances, and eliminating fees when they are determined to be in excess rather than refunding.

TMCC President Hilgersom stated this is a complicated process, but she needed to clarify that TMCC has internal procedures and strategies to ensure they are good stewards of student fees and have a responsible plan on how the fees are expended.

Regent Brager moved approval of the report and institutional responses to the TMCC Special Course and Differential Program Fees audit for the period of July 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023. Regent Boylan seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

6. Information Only – Title IX Update – Senior Associate General Counsel Lynda King and WNC Title IX Coordinator Melody Duley presented general remarks on Title IX regulations that became effective on August 1, 2024.

WNC Title IX Coordinator Duley, UNLV Title IX Coordinator Michelle Sposito, GBC and NSU Title IX Investigator Patricia Anderson, and UNR Title IX Coordinator Zeva Edmondson described the complaint process at their respective institutions as requested by Chair Arrascada.

Regent Boylan suggested that NSHE as a whole have the same process. Senior Associate General Counsel King stated the Title IX Coordinators could discuss consistent processes for ways to submit a complaint so that all options are available at each institution.

7. Information Only – Risk Assessment Process and Department FY25 Highlights – Interim Chief Internal Auditor Lauren Tripp provided general remarks regarding alignment and prioritization of risk factors during the risk assessment process to include an emphasis on activities performed and the Internal Audit Department’s role within NSHE.

8. Approved – Internal Audit Department Work Plan and Status Report, NSHE – The Committee recommended approval of the Internal Audit Work Plan for the six-month period ending December 31, 2024, and the Internal Audit Department Status Report for the six-month period ended June 30, 2024. (Ref. A-8 on file in the Board Office.)

8. Approved – Internal Audit Department Work Plan and Status Report, NSHE – (Continued)

Interim Chief Internal Auditor Tripp presented the Internal Audit Work Plan for the six-month period ending December 31, 2024, and the Internal Audit Department Status Report for the six-month period ended June 30, 2024.

Vice Chair Cruz-Crawford appreciated the thoroughness of the responses.

In response to a question from Regent Del Carlo related to hotline reporting, Interim Chief Internal Auditor Tripp responded that the Board receives an annual report related to the hotline.

Regent Del Carlo moved approval of the Internal Audit Work Plan for the six-month period ending December 31, 2024, and the Internal Audit Department Status Report for the six-month period ended June 30, 2024. Vice Chair Cruz-Crawford seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

9. Information Only – Internal Audit, Compliance and Title IX Updates, NSHE – Interim Chief Internal Auditor Lauren Tripp provided general remarks regarding the incident management system, external auditors, financial statements, internal audit manager search, and IT audit manager position.

In response to a question from Vice Chair Cruz-Crawford related to outreach, Interim Chief Internal Auditor Tripp responded that the Clearview Connects incident management system is posted in two locations on the NSHE website. The system is meant to be an additional resource if the person is not comfortable going to their institution. She added that the categories are listed on the site and the labeling can be changed for a fee.

10. Information Only – New Business

Regent Boylan requested a review of how fees within the differential fee reserve fund could be refunded to students, and a formal Title IX complaint process within NSHE.

Regent Del Carlo requested a schedule of course fees, differential fees, and other fees by priority per institution.

11. Information Only – Public Comment – None.

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 a.m.

Prepared by:

Angela R. Palmer
Special Assistant and Coordinator
to the Board of Regents

Submitted for approval by:

Keri D. Nikolajewski
Chief of Staff to the Board of Regents