

UCCSN Board of Regents' Meeting Minutes August 13-14, 1954

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UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA REGENTS MEETING August 13, 1954

The special meeting of the Board of Regents, called to consider further the needs of the University in budget form, was called to order by the Chairman in the President's office at 10:25 A.M. on Friday, August 13, 1954. Present: Regents Hardy, Crumley, Grant, Lombardi, Ross, Comptroller Hayden and President Stout. University Editor Laxalt and reporters Burns and Friel covered the meeting.

Needs of the University in Budget Form

In presenting the needs of the University for the biennium 1955-57, the President called attention first to the need for an increased amount for salaries. He recommended that the amount be set at 15% over the last biennium. He further recommended that the increased amount to be used for adjustments in salary brackets and in individual salaries where justified to meet the competition in the various areas and to enable the University to pay its staff more nearly what is paid by other Land Grant and State Universities.

It was unanimously agreed that the President's recommendation be approved, and that the budget for the biennium include a 15% increase for salary adjustments.

Mr. Hayden then took the Regents through the proposed budget by Departments and Divisions of the University. Various items were discussed with the Regents, as they desired.

The meeting recessed at 12:20 noon for luncheon.

The recessed meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 2:05 P.M. with all Regents, the Comptroller and the President present. The same reporters covered the afternoon session, with the addition of Mr. Bennyhoff.

Discussion of the needs of the University continued, with definite suggestions by the Regents being noted for consideration of the Administration and the Deans. It was informally agreed that the total increase over the last biennium should be about \$1,500,000.

Las Vegas Correspondence

Chairman Ross called attention to letters and telegrams which he had received from individuals and organizations in Las Vegas requesting that the University extend its facilities in Southern Nevada. The Regents expressed themselves as being in favor of meeting in Las Vegas to consult with these people in view of the fact that there were so many requests. It was agreed that, since this would not be an official meeting of the Board of Regents, each Regent would pay his own expense.

Following discussion on the Las Vegas program, it was the opinion of the Board of Regents that a statement covering the position of the University should be made. At the request of the Chairman, President Stout prepared the following statement, which was unanimously adopted by the Board of Regents and released to the Press:

STATEMENT

At its meeting today the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada reviewed the development of its branch in Las Vegas. This extension of University services was begun in 1951 following a law passed by the Legislature permitting Las Vegas to establish a Junior College. This law was declared unconstitutional by the Attorney General who said the only State program of higher education that could be offered in Nevada had to be supplied by the University of the State.

In an attempt to meet this demand for higher education by a section of the State, the University extended its services in this manner, as it has in other ways, and established a branch in Las Vegas, with a small budget set aside for operation. The 1953 budget, as submitted and approved by the Legislature, included an item for the Las Vegas branch which called for the sum of \$34,000. During the first year of that biennium, 1953-54, a number of classes were taught in facilities provided by the Public School System of Las Vegas.

During the Summer of 1954 there was a request that addi-

tional services be extended to the extent that teachers in that area who needed to meet certification requirements but who because of family or other responsibilities could not leave that area for a period of time, might receive appropriate instruction in Southern Nevada. The University, therefore, set up a special Summer Session for teachers with the hope of attracting about 50 teachers. The response was far above expectations, as there were over 180 enrolled. It might be of interest that the Summer program was self-supporting.

In the same vein, during the second semester of the year 1953-54, there were increased requests from people in that area that the program conducted by the University in Southern Nevada should be expanded to enable them to take a broader program of subjects which would permit them to do the equivalent of the Freshman year. Investigations by the University showed that some 67 high school students would attend such a program if it were offered. (It is of interest to note here that only 6 of those students felt that they could go elsewhere to College if the program were not offered by the University of Nevada. In other words, 61 would not attend College at all if the program were denied.) The University is attempting to meet this demand from a portion of the people of the State and thereby enable them to obtain training beyond what the State now offers them.

To date there have been no commitments by the Board of Regents or officials of the University to the effect that a site will be acquired or a building built. Instead, those responsible for the administration of the University are feeling their way in this area, as they are in other areas where people who wish to attend classes of higher learning are making similar demands. In summary, it may be said that it is the desire of the University of Nevada to meet the needs and demands of the people of the State who furnish the funds that operate the University of Nevada. Any further development of the program in Southern Nevada will depend upon the expressed needs of the people in that area as evidenced by their enrollment and completion of courses offered, and by the financial ability of the University.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 P.M.

The next meeting was set at the call of the Chair.