

# Nevada System of Higher Education

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Board of Regents  
**FROM:** Thom Reilly, Chancellor *Thom*  
**DATE:** November 14, 2017  
**SUBJECT:** Vacancy in the Office of President at the College of Southern Nevada

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In accordance with the provisions of Title 2, Chapter 1, Section 1.5.4 (d) of the Code, the purpose of this memo is to provide a recommendation to the Board to name an Acting President at the College of Southern Nevada (CSN). As you know, Dr. Michael Richards will be retiring from CSN at the end of January.

On Friday, November 3, 2017, Vice Chair Jason Geddes, and I hosted three public forums at the college which were very well attended by the members of the CSN community. Our question to the groups were: Would you prefer to have an Acting President with a national search, or an Interim President with no search? I would characterize the group as overwhelmingly supportive of having a national search with an acting president. The same is true of the many emails I have received from the college community.

The CSN community was unified in its desire to have an acting president with a national search. They believe that a national search would allow any potential internal candidate to apply, but also ensure that CSN would get the absolute best candidate as their next leader. Members of the CSN community expressed how important it is for the next president to value diversity and community engagement.

After consulting with Chair Page, I am recommending that the Board appoint Dr. Margo Martin as Acting President and commence with a national search for the next president of CSN. I have discussed this with Dr. Martin and she is not interested in the permanent position and is willing to serve as Acting President while the search is underway.

Dr. Martin currently serves as Vice President for Academic Affairs at CSN having joined CSN in June of 2017. She has extensive experience and background in academic affairs, assessment, accreditation and working within a multi-campus environment during her tenure at Florida State College at Jacksonville. This experience will be important to CSN as it prepares for submitting an accreditation report due in April 2018, and as it moves forward with the multi-campus district model.

I look forward to working with you to identify the next leader who can continue this good work and bring CSN to the next level.