

Minutes are intended to note (a) the date, time and place of the meeting; (b) those members of the public body who were present and those who were absent; and (c) the substance of all matters proposed, discussed and/or action was taken on. Minutes are not intended to be a verbatim report of a meeting. An audiotape recording of the meeting is available for inspection by any member of the public interested in a verbatim report of the meeting. These minutes are not final until approved by the Board of Regents at the November-December 2017 meeting.

**BOARD OF REGENTS and its  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMMITTEE  
NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

System Administration, Reno  
2601 Enterprise Road, Conference Room  
Thursday, August 31, 2017

Video Conference Connection from the meeting site to:  
System Administration, Las Vegas  
4300 S. Maryland Parkway, Board Room  
and  
Great Basin College, Elko  
1500 College Parkway, Berg Hall Conference Room

Members Present: Dr. Andrea Anderson, Chair *(via telephone)*  
Mrs. Carol Del Carlo, Vice Chair  
Dr. Jason Geddes  
Mr. Sam Lieberman  
Mrs. Cathy McAdoo

Members Absent: Mr. Rick Trachok

Other Regents Present: Ms. Allison Stephens *(via telephone)*

Advisory Members

Present: Dr. Nancy Brune, CSN IAC Chair  
Mr. Rob Hooper, WNC IAC Chair  
Mr. Matt McCarty, GBC IAC Chair

Advisory Members

Absent: Mr. Elmar Davé, TMCC IAC Chair

Others Present: Mr. Chet Burton, Chief Financial Officer  
Mr. Dean J. Gould, Chief of Staff and Special Counsel to the Board  
Mr. Nate Mackinnon, Vice Chancellor, Community Colleges  
Mr. Nicholas Vaskov, Vice Chancellor, Legal Affairs  
Mr. Frank R. Woodbeck, Vice Chancellor, Workforce Development  
Dr. Michael D. Richards, President, CSN  
Dr. Karin M. Hilgersom, President, TMCC  
Mr. Mark Ghan, Officer in Charge, WNC

*For others present, please see the attendance roster on file in the Board office.*

Vice Chair Carol Del Carlo called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with all Regents' Committee members present except Regent Trachok.

1. Information Only-Public Comment – None.
2. Approved-Minutes – The Committee recommended approval of the minutes from the June 1, 2017, meeting (*Ref. CC-2 on file in the Board office*).

Regent Geddes moved approval of the minutes from the June 1, 2017, meeting. Regent Lieberman seconded. Motion carried. Regent Trachok was absent.

3. Information Only-Introductory Remarks from the Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges – Vice Chancellor Nate Mackinnon provided introductory remarks regarding his role as Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges and outlined his short- and long-term goals.
4. Information Only-Association of Community College Trustees Leadership Congress – Regent Allison Stephens, Vice Chancellor for Workforce Development Frank R. Woodbeck and CSN Senior Vice President Patricia Charlton provided an update on the plans for the ACCT Leadership Congress to be held in Las Vegas on September 25-28, 2017.

Ms. Charlton said CSN will host a pre-conference reception and dinner for ACCT board members, Regents, System staff and local stakeholders at its North Las Vegas campus. CSN faculty will be participating in the opening of the Congress and a number of volunteers will be providing assistance for the duration of the conference.

Vice Chancellor Woodbeck noted six panel presentations will be given by NSHE colleges on topics including meeting workforce demand, K-12/community college pathways, Nevada's system within a System, opening a portal to the future, effective partnerships between K-12 and higher education and the Jump Start dual credit program. An estimated 1,300 participants are expected to attend the Congress.

Regent Stephens added it is critical to have participation from all NSHE institutions. There is a high level of interest in what is being done in Nevada and the system within a System presentation is a great opportunity for the NSHE to tell its story.

5. Information Only-Institutional Advisory Council Meetings – Each community college president and institutional advisory council chair (or designee) provided a report on the discussions and actions from their most recent meeting(s).

Mr. Rob Hooper, Chair, WNC IAC, reported on the following: welcoming a new IAC member from the high-tech manufacturing industry; the inclusion of a publication highlighting programs and opportunities at WNC in newspapers throughout the region; an update on the reconstituted nursing program in Fallon;

5. Information Only-Institutional Advisory Council Meetings – (continued)

IAC participation in the strategic planning process at WNC; the formation of an enrollment and retention committee; the Nevada Promise Scholarship Program; an update on the Level 2 Mechatronics program; organizing campus tours for K-12 counselors; efforts to market WNC's career and technical education programs to non-traditional students in the 25-35 age group; and a trade between the Northern Nevada Development Authority and the Reno Media Group that resulted in approximately \$40,000 in radio spots which will be used to promote WNC and its various training and certification programs.

Dr. Nancy Brune, Chair, CSN IAC, indicated the IAC has not met since her last report to the Committee on June 1, 2017. The next meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2017. Priorities of the IAC including providing support for the Nevada Promise Scholarship Program, working closely with the CSN Foundation to identify and train mentors and supporting the expansion of CSN's Prison Education Program.

Dr. Karin M. Hilgersom, President, TMCC, reported the following on behalf of Mr. Elmar Davé, Chair, TMCC IAC: hiring fairs conducted by Panasonic at TMCC's Edison location; new IAC membership; increased enrollment in manufacturing programs; an update on the Governor's trade mission to Chile and Peru; plans to expand the enrollment of international students over the next five years; a presentation on marketing initiatives including a new tagline for TMCC – *The College for the New Nevada*; an update on the Veteran's Resource Center regarding job placements; and an overview of TMCC's career and technical education programs.

Mr. Matt McCarty, Chair, GBC IAC, said the IAC has not met since his last report to the Committee. The next meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2017. Topics of discussion will include ways in which the IAC can continue to help GBC grow and community outreach efforts.

6. Information Only-Community College Campus Initiatives – Each community college president provided the Committee with campus-related updates on community college initiatives that have occurred since the Committee's last regular meeting.

Ms. Lynn Mahlberg, Vice President of Student Services, GBC, provided a report on behalf of President Joyce Helens. For the fifth year in a row, GBC nursing students achieved a 100 percent pass rate for the National Council Licensure Examination. GBC's nursing program is being considered for the designation of a 2018 National League for Nursing Center of Excellence in Nursing Education. Over the summer, GBC held its first annual Shoshone Community Language Initiative. In addition, Dean of Business and Technology Bret Murphy participated in the Governor's trade mission to Chile and Peru and, as a result of contacts made there, the Governor's Office of Economic Development is arranging Elko mining tours for foreign business leaders from South America and

6. Information Only-Community College Campus Initiatives – *(continued)*

elsewhere. GBC was awarded grant funding for a three-year tectonics study of the Ruby Mountains. Finally, Ms. Mahlberg noted the administrative team at GBC is working to develop dual enrollment agreements with various school districts in accordance with new legislation.

President Hilgersom reported on TMCC's Gateway Initiative designed to ensure students successfully complete gateway courses in mathematics and English within their first year; a new advising model that employs part-time faculty to provide intensive advising and mentoring to students; continued development of dual credit offerings; and the renovation of several spaces on the Dandini campus.

Dr. Michael D. Richards, President, CSN, introduced CSN's new Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Margo Martin. He reported on the annual Adjunct Impact Conference, the fall Convocation for faculty and staff and the scheduling of several CSN Connections events for students to introduce them to the various services available through the College. President Richards encouraged the Board to look at increasing part-time faculty compensation. He said it is an issue that comes up frequently and CSN is having trouble being competitive. Finally, he noted that CSN will be hosting the Southern Nevada Diversity Summit on October 6, 2017, at the North Las Vegas campus.

Mr. Mark Ghan, Officer in Charge, WNC, reported on efforts geared toward increasing enrollment and improving retention, including programs targeting prison inmates who are also veterans. He noted that WNC is working to update its facilities master plan and is preparing for its upcoming accreditation visit in April 2018. Finally, the expansion of the Reynolds advanced manufacturing lab is complete and work is set to begin on the reconfiguration of the chemistry and cadaver lab in the Aspen Building.

7. Information Only-Unique Community College Highlights – Each institutional advisory council chair, on a rotational basis, will be asked to highlight unique characteristics about their college and/or community that Committee members may not be aware of. This meeting highlighted Great Basin College and GBC IAC chair Matt McCarty provided a report.

Vice Chair Del Carlo requested a copy of the report be included with the minutes *(copy attached)*.

8. Information Only-Nevada Promise Scholarship Program – Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges Nate Mackinnon presented an update on the implementation of the Nevada Promise Scholarship Program, including marketing efforts, the development of a common application, steps students must take to be considered for an award and mentoring opportunities *(Ref. CC-8 on file in the Board office)*.

8. Information Only-Nevada Promise Scholarship Program – (continued)

Vice Chancellor Mackinnon noted the common application was made available on Friday, August 25, 2017, and, so far, 491 applications have been submitted statewide. He will present another update to the Committee at its next meeting.

In response to a question from Regent Geddes, Vice Chancellor Mackinnon indicated the Tennessee Promise Scholarship Program, which is in its fourth year of existence statewide, has not yet had an impact on graduation rates. Tennessee has seen an increase in the overall number of degrees produced; however, the percentage of students entering college and leaving with a degree has remained flat. Vice Chancellor Mackinnon observed Tennessee has done a great job administering the program, and they now have an opportunity to shift the focus toward improving completion rates.

Vice Chancellor Mackinnon noted that for the last two years, Tennessee has had the highest completion rate in the country of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at 93 percent. Tennessee students are not leaving any federal dollars on the table that they otherwise would be entitled to, and officials point to the Promise Program as the reason for that. He is hopeful that Nevada can get to a similar point in the future.

Regent McAdoo asked if the Promise Scholarship covers remedial credits. Vice Chancellor Mackinnon said he is working with NSHE colleagues on that issue.

President Richards said it is his understanding that remedial credits are covered.

In response to a question from Mr. McCarty, Vice Chancellor Mackinnon said a discussion on how the \$3.5 million allocation is divided among the institutions still needs to take place.

9. Information Only-CSN Accreditation Update – CSN President Michael D. Richards and CSN Senior Vice President Patricia Charlton provided an update on CSN's accreditation (*Ref. CC-9 and supplemental material on file in the Board office*). The presentation included information on eligibility requirements, standards and the status of the recommendations noted during CSN's most recent accreditation visit, including Board self-evaluation and CSN's process for program assessment.

President Richards said he believes the workshop planned for October 2017, which will include a Board self-evaluation, will meet the accreditation requirement for Board assessment set forth by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

10. Information Only-New Business – President Hilgersom suggested including some action items on the Committee agenda that can help move the community colleges forward. Chair Anderson and Vice Chair Del Carlo concurred.

11. Information Only-Public Comment – None.

The meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Prepared by: Keri D. Nikolajewski  
Manager of Board Operations

Submitted for approval by: Dean J. Gould  
Chief of Staff and Special Counsel to the Board of Regents

The story of Great Basin College begins more than 50 years ago when a pioneering group of Elko citizens got together to discuss how they could help their community grow and obtain higher education without having to leave their ranches, jobs and homes. With the help of many others within the community, as well as many beyond Elko's borders, including a charismatic Governor and a reclusive billionaire, Elko Community College took hold.

Elko Community College eventually changed to Northern Nevada Community College to reflect the service needs of a greater rural geography. That philosophy of service transformed not only a name but program offerings as well with the college adding baccalaureate degrees in 1999, some of which are offered entirely online. The name, Great Basin College, then emerged to match the full scope of what is offered, grown out of a kindred spirit with people working together for the region, not just for Elko.

Fast forward 50 years and GBC remains a pioneer in distance education, perfectly suited for rural Nevada and beyond. The original campus has expanded to include dormitories in Elko and Centers in Winnemucca, Battle Mt., Ely and Pahrump, helping to anchor the college across 10 counties, bordering 5 states, accounting for nearly 80% of the land area within Nevada, but only 5.5% of the population. At just over 1 ½ people per square mile, we are most definitely rural. However, we offer 12 bachelor degrees (7 of which are offered completely online), 33 associate degrees (10 available entirely online), 18 certificate of achievement programs (10 of those being only online) and an additional 4 post baccalaureate certificates leading to licensure in teaching. There are an additional 15 workforce development skills certificates.

Our Distance Education presence is successful because it isn't a separate department at GBC. It is woven into the fabric of the teaching and learning process we do so well, whether face-to-face or online, and has grown out of community needs. One such need is nursing. The Nursing Program has expanded to our Winnemucca and Pahrump Centers. The GBC nursing graduates have a 5-year 100% pass-rate and the program has been recognized by RegisteredNursing.org as the best nursing program in Nevada. Also very noteworthy is that the first rural online cohort of nursing graduates also passed their exams at the same 100% rate!

Educating our rural citizens allows for economic growth, as most of our graduates stay local. These students are familiar with the advantages and benefits of rural living, while also understanding and accepting the challenges. This reduces the expense, and time commitment required, of recruiting. Northeastern Nevada Regional Hospital in Elko has recruited most of their current nursing staff from GBC graduates. Banner Churchill Community Hospital in Fallon also recruits heavily from GBC, as do our other rural Nevada healthcare providers.

GBC was one of the first community colleges in the nation to offer baccalaureate degrees. This was the Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education, created in 1999 in response to the needs of rural Nevada. The need to remain economically viable has also driven the call for Secondary Education degrees. Locally grown teachers help our communities maintain the quality of life we enjoy, while helping economic development. As with locally grown nurses, teachers coming out of GBC have a tendency to stay, growing with their schools and improving the local quality of life, an attribute expected by companies

moving into the area. By offering classes locally, students have the freedom to stay with their families, building their lives and strengthening their homes. By keeping these type of liberal arts programs joined with our technical programs, we protect what we have and we continue to grow.

I recently was able to look through a scrapbook made for the College throughout the 1981-1982 school year. Multiple articles in the newspapers of communities covered by the College talked about the technical programs offered by the college. It was interesting to read about the pioneering programs from 35 years ago and compare them to today's programs, as we celebrate 50 years. Two such programs, made possible by the weighted student credit hour factor are the proposed Manufacturing program in Pahrump and the Electrical program in Ely. Both will be Certificate and Associate Degree programs, allowing for a pathway to the Bachelor of Applied Science program. This ability to tie into, and expand with, additional courses is indicative of the quality of programs at GBC which are recognizable and transportable due to a long history of successful pioneering spirit.

We also have stayed true to our roots by serving the communities we are in, offering courses for our constituents that may not be intended to produce a degree. A recent example is the Shoshone language initiative residency program. This program is sponsored by Barrick and was previously at the University of Utah. It was brought locally due to the distances traveled to provide the program. The Shoshone Elders didn't want the travel, either for themselves or their youth. The Elders said that "the sacred sites are here, the history is here, the culture is here, our home is here, so we want the students here". By partnering with GBC and Barrick, 12 Shoshone youths, 6 women and 6 men, were given the opportunity to learn about their heritage, helping to keep the culture alive.

In another partnership with Barrick, and on that I have previously touched on, this summer 175 students were enrolled in Cisco training classes through our Continuing Education Department. There were no pre-requisites, but this class gave participants knowledge of where they could go with Cisco training. Monday 2 academic classes started with a total of 27 students. Barrick is paying for their employees, Veterans and Native Americans within their 8 Nevada communities. By responding to these industry needs, we are providing an opportunity for community members to enroll as well.

Because GBC has always listened to our communities, the IAC, through the pioneers prior to our current manifestation, became a funnel-point to collect and utilize constituent voices. We continue to listen to our business partners, while not letting go of our Liberal Arts classes and programs. We also continue to grow our Dual Enrollment program, reaching more high school students than ever. Since our founding, we have worked with our local School Districts, who at one point were considered the fiscal agent for the fledgling experiment that has matured into GBC. Once we became established, we reciprocated the early support we received and have been partnering with the Districts to provide them, and their students, with classes that they need.

Our program continues to be fashioned for each individual School District, school and student. Whether they are looking for General Education, CTE pathways or forays into the Health and Early Childhood Education programs, we do not settle for just one thing, pushing one thing. We continue asking, "What do you need?". This has allowed us to expand to meet the needs of individual rural Districts, to the

point that we are serving well over 700 students. These dual-enrollment students in particular are matriculating into GBC and graduating on time. The realities that face some of our Districts require that we work with our dual-enrollment students on their own campuses. For example, Eureka County has a 4-day school week due to the amount of school being missed on Fridays for students, families and faculties traveling for medical appointments, athletics and other extra-curricular activities. Pulling these students, typically leaders within the school, out of their classes and communities does not work. We use the strength that we have developed in our distance education to reach them and create the win-win situation that rural Nevada pioneers instituted into our culture. The preliminary numbers for Fall of 2017 show an increase in these enrollments.

In closing, I want to briefly tell part of a story for two of our students. Tyler Volk is attending Roseman University of Health Sciences to fulfill his dream of becoming a Pharmacist. Tyler was a "Traditional Student", graduating from GBC with a Bachelor of Science degree. One of our IAC Members, Dr. Andy Bath, is 1 of only 4 Pharmacists in Ely. If Tyler were to move Ely after becoming a Pharmacist, there would be a 25% increase in providers for this community. This year's Regents' Scholar Award was Shiara Holmes from Owyhee. Shiara earned her Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education from GBC in 2016 and will go on to earn her Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education the next year. One of her projects was the creation of a community library, where she collected more than 1,500 books for children up to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The "power of one" demonstrated by these two individuals is what GBC is all about.

We continue to honor our past while looking forward to what is beyond the horizon. We recently welcomed our new President, Joyce Helens, and we look forward to a new Vice President of Academic Affairs next year. With positions opening due to retirements and the expansion of the CTE program through weighted-student credit hours, we have new eyes looking out for our students, our staff, our faculty and our communities. A great deal has changed in 50 years, but as our new President has said, it is what has remained the same in that time that attracted her to our community and our college, that "vision of selfless service for the health and welfare of our communities, recognizing the power of higher education to change lives, one student at a time."