Accomplishments of Potential Emeritus Status Awardees  
NSHE Board of Regents  
September 2017 Meeting

PRESIDENTS

Milton Glick (UNR) Posthumously  2006-2011

Dr. Milton Glick led UNR to historic institutional and reputational milestones in areas ranging from student success to campus expansion to research capacity. Under Dr. Glick’s direction, the University increased its number of National Merit Scholars from a handful to 38 – a record for the state of Nevada. For these efforts, the University was named a prestigious National Merit Scholarship Sponsor School. In 2010-2011, the University set all-time records for enrollment and graduation. In addition, freshman retention rates reached 80 percent, also an institutional record. In fall 2010, for the first time in the University’s history, the institution was named a Tier I school in U.S. News & World Report’s annual rankings. Dr. Glick stressed the value of creating a “sticky campus” – a dynamic campus setting where both the student body and the community are engaged and excited – and with the opening of key buildings such as the Joe Crowley Student Union, Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center, the Center for Molecular Medicine and the Davidson Mathematics and Science Building, he was able to markedly strengthen the connection between the campus and the community.

Paul Killpatrick (GBC)  2002-2008

Dr. Paul Killpatrick came to GBC from Mt. Hood College in Oregon and was, from the beginning, very committed to economic development, "with the idea that a growing community helps the college grow...a growing college, in return, stabilizes the community.” He served two years as Chairman of the Elko County Economic Diversification Authority (now NNRDA - Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority). He was inducted into Job Corps Hall of Fame after serving in the Job Corps starting in 1969 as a high school dropout in the Watts area of Los Angeles. The Bachelor of Science in Nursing and the Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education for GBC was approved by the Board under his leadership.

Fred Maryanski (NSC) Posthumously  2005-2010

Dr. Fred Maryanski earned his Ph.D. in Computer Science at the University of Connecticut, a master’s degree in Computer Science from Stevens Institute of Technology, and a bachelor’s degree in mathematics from Providence College. If President Maryanski had a motto it would have been “pay it forward.” Under his stewardship the College gained credibility and traction. Dr. Maryanski steered the institution through its accreditation process, spearheaded and finalized the College’s 509 acre campus master plan, opened the College’s first permanent building on campus, and managed the rapid growth of student enrollment. He was a soft-spoken visionary who never missed an opportunity to advance the College’s mission. Dr. Maryanski had a great sense of humor and a dry wit, both frequently on display. Through his leadership, Nevada State added critical programs that opened doors to many students, many of whom are the first in their families to pursue higher education.

Dr. Richard Leon Moore served as the founding president of Nevada State College, having served five years as president of the College of Southern Nevada. He held a doctorate in Economics from The Claremont Graduate School, an MBA from University of California, Berkeley, and a bachelor’s in Economics from Claremont’s Men’s College. He was instrumental in the creation and successful beginning of Nevada State College. After his term as president Dr. Moore joined the faculty as the first tenured professor within Business. Dr. Moore was an early adopter of online courses and advocated utilizing open educational materials to further reduce the costs of higher education. When he could not find what he wanted, he wrote textbooks for his business courses and waived his right to payment from the sales. Founding faculty recall that Dr. Moore once stopped by a Faculty Senate meeting to comment on an enrollment policy stating that he had seen how these policies impact a student’s ability to stay in college. From admittance to commencement Dr. Moore believed that every member at the College had a part in advocating for and ensuring student success by asking how a decision would impact the quality, access, and affordability for the student body. Former Nevada Governor Mike O’Callaghan said, “During the 45 years that I’ve been in Nevada, no single person has done more to promote higher education that Dr. Richard Moore.”

John Richardson (TMCC) 1997-2000

Dr. John Richardson came to Nevada as UCCSN Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs in 1992 and served briefly as Acting Chancellor in that period. He became President at TMCC when the prior President left suddenly and he stepped into the role, first as Interim and then named by the Board in October 1997. Under his leadership new planning processes and faculty input mechanisms were put in place which allowed the campus to move forward with outstanding academic planning, enhanced assessment efforts, and the creation of new academic programs. Distance education activities significantly expanded, and classes began at the Edison Campus. Under his leadership the College’s relationship with the WCSD was established and became strong through multiple partnerships. Student enrollment increased each fall. President Richardson secured the initial dollars for the construction of the Eardley Student Center.

Neal Smatresk (UNLV) 2009-2014

Dr. Neal Smatresk was named UNLV's ninth president in August 2009, after serving two years as the university's executive vice president and provost. He took the helm at UNLV in the midst of the Great Recession and successfully ushered the university through a period of economic uncertainty. During Dr. Smatresk’s time as president from August 2009 to February 2014, UNLV wrapped up a $537 million capital campaign, established partnerships with the prestigious Brookings Institution and Lincy Foundation, and launched comprehensive undergraduate education reform. The university also positioned itself as a key partner in Nevada’s economic recovery through research and community collaborations, including the 2012 launch of the UNLV Office of Economic Development. Initiatives central to UNLV’s current Top Tier strategic plan also began or continued during Dr. Smatresk’s tenure, including initial conversations regarding expansion of medical education in Southern Nevada, a “Tier 1” plan to become a top 100 research university by achieving the highest Carnegie Foundation research status, and the formation of a Campus Improvement Authority Board that brought industry and elected officials together to assess options for a large stadium/events center. Dr. Smatresk left UNLV to become president of the University of North Texas in February 2014.
Stephen Wells (DRI) 2000 - 2017

Prior to serving as DRI President, Dr. Stephen Wells was the Executive Director of DRI’s Quaternary Sciences Center for four years. Before coming to Nevada, Dr. Wells served as the Graduate Program Director for the Department of Earth Science at the University of California-Riverside and previously he served on the faculty of the Department of Geology at the University of New Mexico. While at DRI, Dr. Wells helped grow the Institution from an organization with a budget of $23 million per year to about $50 million annually. Under his leadership DRI dramatically expanded its two main campuses in Reno and Las Vegas, and research facilities in Steamboat Springs, Colorado and Boulder City, Nevada. Examples include construction of the Frank Rogers building in Las Vegas, which allowed (among other things) for expansion of DRI’s laboratories, archives and meeting/function space, expansion and complete renovation of DRI’s Storm Peak Lab in Colorado, opening of the Computational Research and Visualization Building on DRI’s Reno campus, and expansion of the Maxey Wing of DRI’s Northern Nevada Science Center. With Dr. Wells at the helm, DRI became recognized as an economic engine for Nevada – providing consistent 4.5-to-1 returns on every dollar the state invests in DRI operations.

CHANCELLORS

Richard Jarvis 1995-2000

Dr. Richard Jarvis became Chancellor of the University and Community College System of Nevada in 1995, coming to Nevada from the SUNY system office in New York. He was also a tenured Professor of Geography and used that academic background to teach a geography class at one of the System institutions each semester while he was Chancellor. Under his leadership and Board direction, the roles of the Chancellor and the System office were redefined to establish a stronger Board of Regents, to give the Chancellor more responsibility for and power over the Presidents, and to speak with one voice on legislative priorities set by the Board. His work with Governor Kenny Guinn established the Millennium Scholarship for Nevada high school graduates.

Daniel Klaich 2009-2016

Dan Klaich had served from 1983 to 1996 as an elected Regent and then in 2004 became Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs and Chief Counsel. He was named Executive Vice Chancellor under Chancellor James Rogers. Under his leadership as Chancellor, the NSHE institutions survived the Great Recession, plans for a second School of Medicine to be located at UNLV were developed, and academic initiatives such as the 15 to Finish campaign and the longitudinal database for K-16 were put in place. The first state-funded need-based financial aid program, the Silver State Opportunity Grant, was funded by the legislature. Additionally, his efforts to link colleges to the workforce through the revolutionary Burning Glass® technology resulted in the matching of workers and their skills with workforce needs. His vision supported allowing students to earn college credit while in high school with innovative programs like Jump Start and expanded dual enrollment opportunities.

Jane Nichols 2000-2004

In 1984, Dr. Jane Nichols became a faculty member at UNR in the Department of Social and Health Resources, coming from a tenured position at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga. At UNR, she served as Coordinator of University Assessment and as Associate
Dean of the College of Education. She came to the System office in 1997, serving as Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs until she became Chancellor in 2000. She returned to the position of Vice Chancellor in 2005 and served until 2012. Throughout her service, her passion for helping students and ensuring a seamless transfer system between colleges and universities resulted in the current transfer policies and practices. Under her leadership, Nevada State College was begun, the Board developed a Master Plan for growth, including more options for students, and the System set aside for the first time, a portion of student fees for need-based aid. The name of the System was changed from the University and Community College System of Nevada to the Nevada System of Higher Education.