

BOARD OF REGENTS BRIEFING PAPER

1. AGENDA ITEM TITLE *Handbook* Revision, Western Nevada College (WNC) Mission Statement

MEETING DATE: February 28-March 1, 2019

2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

Board of Regents Handbook, Title 4, Chapter 14, Section 3.2 states:

“Institutional strategic plans and mission statements for each NSHE institution, including the Desert Research Institute, shall be presented for consideration to the Board of Regents at least every seven years and will cover a planning period of up to seven years. Updates concerning progress toward major goals and the revision of existing goals may come before the Board at any time during the seven year planning period as determined appropriate by the institution.”

The Western Nevada College (WNC) 2019-2025 Strategic Plan was completed as a collaborative and inclusive community process between August 2017 and January 2019. It is the first Strategic Plan in Nevada created under and in alignment with the new Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) goals. Additionally, this Strategic Plan reflects the shift within the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), our regional accrediting body, toward more streamlined strategic plans with focused Key Performance Indicators at the institutional level. Annual strategic planning across all academic programs and administrative offices allows for clear goal alignment with this institutional plan and improves the College’s ability to track and assess nimble initiatives that respond to the changing needs of the students and communities we serve.

As a result of the guidance from NSHE and NWCCU, and under the direction of our WNC community input, the WNC 2019-2025 Strategic Plan takes on an innovative structure and leaner format that captures the heart of our ongoing mission and goals. The proposed policy revision would update WNC’s mission statement accordingly in Board policy.

3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

President Solis requests Board approval of a *Handbook* Revision to Title 4, Chapter 14, Section 4 to reflect Western Nevada College’s revised mission statement.

4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

The impetus for this request is not only to comply with Board Policy Title 4, Chapter 14, Section 3 regarding presenting for consideration an institutional strategic plan and mission statement to the Board of Regents at least every seven years, but also to ensure WNC meets the expectations of its accrediting body, the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

5. CHECK THE NSHE STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL THAT IS SUPPORTED BY THIS REQUEST:

- Access (Increase participation in post-secondary education)
- Success (Increase student success)
- Close the Achievement Gap (Close the achievement gap among underserved student populations)
- Workforce (Collaboratively address the challenges of the workforce and industry education needs of Nevada)
- Research (Co-develop solutions to the critical issues facing 21st century Nevada and raise the overall research profile)
- Not Applicable to NSHE Strategic Plan Goals

INDICATE HOW THE PROPOSAL SUPPORTS THE SPECIFIC STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL

WNC’s revised Strategic Plan 2019-2025 was created to align with the five NSHE Strategic Plan Goals.

Mission Statement: WNC contributes to solutions for the 21st century by providing effective educational pathways for the students and communities of Nevada.

Pages 5 and 6 of the attached Western Nevada College 2019-2025 Strategic Plan provide more detail about the alignment with the NSHE Strategic Plan Goals along with the flow chart on page 7.

6. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- WNC’s previous Strategic Plan and Mission Statement were for the period 2012-2018 and require revision.
- WNC’s revised Strategic Plan 2019-2025 and revised Mission Statement directly align with the NSHE Strategic Plan Goals.
- WNC’s Strategic Plan 2019-2025 and revised Mission Statement provide guidance to the college that meets current needs of students and the community-at-large.

7. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

None have been presented.

8. ALTERNATIVE(S) TO WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED/RECOMMENDED:

None have been presented.

9. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE:

Academic and Student Affairs staff reviewed the proposal and have no concerns.

10. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:

- Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title #4, Chapter #14, Section #3
- Amends Current Board Policy: Title #4, Chapter #14, Section #4
- Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter # _____ Section # _____
- Other: _____
- Fiscal Impact: Yes _____ No X _____
Explain: _____

POLICY PROPOSAL
Title 4, Chapter 14, Section 4
Institutional Mission Statements -- WNC

Additions appear in *boldface italics*; deletions are ~~stricken~~ and bracketed]

Section 4. Institutional Mission Statements

The Board of Regents has adopted the institutional mission statements as follows:

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7. WESTERN NEVADA COLLEGE (WNC) MISSION STATEMENT

~~[Western Nevada College inspires success in our community through opportunities that cultivate creativity, intellectual growth and technological excellence, in an environment that nurtures individual potential and respects differences.]~~

WNC contributes to solutions for the 21st century by providing effective educational pathways for the students and communities of Nevada.

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