

Draft December 5-6 Minutes Excerpt

27. Approved – Procedures and Guidelines Manual Revision, Differential Program Fees, NSC and TMCC – The Board approved the proposed differential fees for NSC and TMCC. (*Ref. BOR-27 on file in the Board Office.*)

President Johnson presented the proposed differential fees for the School of Community Health Sciences. President Johnson stated the \$50 per credit hour fee, effective Fall 2020, will fund instructional support, student financial aid, and professional development activities.

Ms. Rachel Kaiser, UNR Student, spoke in favor of the differential fee proposal. The fee will provide graduate students with an exceptional opportunity to foster research and development skills. The instructional support will diversify learning and aid in maximizing the student experience. Replacing the current lab fees will provide more stable funding for labs, staff, and equipment.

Mr. Davis Florence, UNR Student, stated the program has seen tremendous growth and he has witnessed the School of Community Health Sciences become an independent school on campus. With this growth comes a severe importance to create additional funding. With the proposed differential fee, more than \$500,000 will go toward instructional support. This will directly help the school move toward ratio goals. Another benefit will be funding for the numerous labs across campus.

Vice Chairman Doubrava moved approval of the proposed differential fees for the UNR School of Community Health Sciences. Regent McMichael seconded.

Regent Hayes was concerned this was a way around the Board's decision to cap tuition. This fee will deviate from all the institutions having the same tuition.

Chairman Geddes stated differential fees were created to fund high-expense programs by those in the program and not all students from the institution.

Regent Hayes added this would change the cost of a degree at the institution.

Motion failed via a roll call vote. Regents Carter, Carvalho, Del Carlo, Hayes, McAdoo, Page, and Perkins voted no. Chairman Geddes, Vice Chairman Doubrava, and Regents Lieberman, McMichael, Moran, and Trachok voted yes.

Chairman Geddes disclosed under NRS Chapter 281A, as recommended by the Nevada Commission on Ethics, that his son is an undergraduate student at the University of Nevada, Reno, majoring in business, and would be responsible for any higher differential fees in business

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and other possible fees under consideration by the Board of Regents. In this regard, he is in the same position as any other parent with a student at UNR and will not obtain any significant pecuniary benefit by voting on this matter. He will vote on the item.

President Johnson presented the proposed differential fees for the College of Business. The first fee is \$35 per credit hour fee, effective Fall 2020, and an additional \$50 per credit hour fee, effective Fall 2023. The fees will support three objectives: 1) having a high-quality, skill-focused curriculum; 2) offering extracurricular activities to support professional skills development; and 3) having competitive facilities for education. Quality programs require people, program support and excellent facilities. Thirty (\$30) of the \$35 fee will go toward general program support for instructional resources for recruiting and retention efforts through the student success center to extracurricular activities through the career and corporate outreach center and some of the Nevada global business programs to give students an opportunity to experience business abroad. The additional \$5 will go toward the design of the College of Business building beginning in Fall 2020. After the anticipated opening of the building in Fall 2023, then a total of \$55 per credit hour will go toward the debt payment for a portion of the construction costs.

Ms. Gabby Liu, UNR Student, reviewed the process of gathering student input about the differential fees.

Mr. Elliott Parrish, UNR Student, stated the committee assigned to review the differential fees determined the fee reasonable provided the size and programming specifications detailed in the proposal are met and held steady. The committee emphasized that if the building decreased in size, the recommendation would be withdrawn.

Regent Trachok moved approval of the proposed differential fees for the College of Business.
Regent McMichael seconded.

Regent Hayes stated a fee should not be charged to provide a quality curriculum or for extracurricular activities.

Chairman Geddes asked what the difference was between the approved differential fees at NSC and TMCC and those at UNR. Regent Hayes noted the price was significantly different per credit hour.

Regent Del Carlo stated she was struggling with the price point on UNR's differential fees. An \$85 per credit hour fee will add \$5,100 to the cost of a business degree at UNR.

President Johnson reported the differential fee for Engineering has been \$85 for the past five years. It was supported by the students and is comparative.

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In response to a question from Regent Perkins, President Johnson stated the differential fee would not go away after a certain amount of time. The reason to determine the cost early is that the institution must know where the revenue is coming from before a financing plan is established.

Faculty Senate Chair Frost stated page 10 of the reference material provides some competitiveness figures.

UNR ASUN President Anthony Martinez noted this was voted on by student government. This is the same type of fee that was put in place for the fitness center.

Motion failed via a roll call vote. Regents Carter, Carvalho, Del Carlo, Hayes, Lieberman, McAdoo, Page, and Perkins voted no. Chairman Geddes, Vice Chairman Doubrava, and Regents McMichael, Moran, and Trachok voted yes.