

**BOARD OF REGENTS  
BRIEFING PAPER**

**1. AGENDA ITEM TITLE:** CSN Honorary Degree Recipient, 2022 Commencement

**MEETING DATE:** March 3-4, 2022

**2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:**

Annual nomination of an individual to receive an honorary degree at 2022 commencement ceremony.

**3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:**

CSN President Federico Zaragoza requests approval to present Larry Mason with an honorary Associate's degree at CSN's 2022 commencement ceremony.

**4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):**

Standing item for March Board

**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 21<sup>st</sup> 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**

Mr. Mason is a former CSN Diversity Officer. He is a respected community leader and one of the first elected Latino/Hispanic persons to the CCSD Board. His continued engagement in the local Hispanic and other underserved communities (strategic goals: access, success, close the achievement gap, workforce) would make him an excellent awardee and representative of NSHE and CSN.

**6. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:**

- Lifelong career in higher education (with NSHE from 1984-2010)
- Former President of Board of School Trustees for CCSD
- Past NSHE Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Council (EDIC) co-chair
- Received the Ohtli Award by the Government of Mexico in 2015 for distinguished service
- He remains involved and active in local community through work with the Latin Chamber of Commerce and alumni groups.

**7. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:**

None

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

CSN would not present an honorary degree in May 2022.

**9. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE:**

**10. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:**

- Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title # \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter # \_\_\_\_\_ Section # \_\_\_\_\_
- Amends Current Board Policy: Title # \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter # \_\_\_\_\_ Section # \_\_\_\_\_
- Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter # \_\_\_\_\_ Section # \_\_\_\_\_
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Fiscal Impact: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No x \_\_\_\_\_  
Explain: \_\_\_\_\_



## Honorary Degree Nomination Form

1. Degree to be Awarded:

Honorary Doctorate  Honorary Baccalaureate  Honorary Associate

2. Please state the name and address of your nominee for an Honorary Degree.

Larry Mason

3. Honorary degrees shall be awarded to persons who have made significant contributions to the improvement of the quality of academic programs and academic life at one of the NSHE's institutions. Persons currently holding public elected office are not eligible for the degree except in extraordinary circumstances.

What are your reasons for nominating this person? (Attach additional pages, if necessary.)

Mr. Mason is a former CSN Diversity Officer. He is a respected community leader and one of the first elected Latino/Hispanic persons to the CCSD Board. His continued engagement in the local Hispanic and other underserved communities would make him an excellent awardee and representative of NSHE and CSN. Additionally:

- He has had a lifelong career in higher education (with NSHE from 1984-2010)
- He is a former President of Board of School Trustees for CCSD
- He is a past NSHE Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Council (EDIC) co-chair
- Received the Ohtli Award from the Government of Mexico in 2015 for distinguished service
- He remains involved and active in the local community through work with the Latin Chamber of Commerce and alumni groups.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

02/01/2022

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
College of Southern Nevada  
Institution

(B/R 3/03; Added 6/05)