

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Tuesday, May 31, 2022 12:31:21 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: saharah@unr.edu

Name: Sahara Harrington

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Increased graduate student assistantship

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

As you know, cost of living is increasing in Reno at an astronomical rate. If we want to continue to be a school that prides itself on our research status, we must continue to ensure the needs of our graduate students are being met. If we increase the wages for our students, we are also telling other potential graduate students that this is the school they should come to. In other words, this doesn't just help the students, it helps the school to recruit more competent and capable students and continue our research legacy.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education (<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Thursday, June 2, 2022 4:37:08 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: tara.c9@gmail.com

Name: Tara Christensen

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Graduate assistantship stipend increase

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

Please vote to increase the graduate student stipend at UNR. I am a PhD student in the EECB program, and am lucky enough to be the recipient of the NSF Graduate Reserach Fellowship. This fellowship awards me a salary of \$34,000 a year. This barely covers my living expenses in Reno. Formerly I was on a teaching assistantship, then a research assistantship that were roughly \$22,000/year. This amount did not meet my basic needs, and seeing as to how most graduate students work well over 40 hours a week, works out to be below minimum wage in most cases. Record-breaking inflation is making it even harder to stretch these stipends to cover basic living costs. Please consider enhancing the stipends of your graduate students that are making UNR a high-quality research institution and contributing to the pursuit of knowledge for the greater good. We are the backbone of the University and deserve to earn a living wage. Thank you for your time.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Thursday, June 2, 2022 10:37:43 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: josephzhao@nevada.unr.edu

Name: Yu Zhao

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: increase graduate student stipend

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

As the inflation keeps exacerbating, food and apartment cause continues to grow, we graduate students need more stipend to cover our basic living expenses.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Thursday, June 2, 2022 11:50:36 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: arnab@nevada.unr.edu

Name: Arnab Biswas

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Agenda Item

In Favor / Opposed / Other: No Position stated – Concerned or Neutral

Comment:

With increase in rent and food prices by more than 10% a larger chunk of graduate student stipend is being spent on these essentials. Rent and food end up consuming 75% of most student salaries with little to no savings at the end of the month. Graduate students, mostly in their mid to late twenties, are forced to put their life on hold, due to the meagre stipends. This should not be the case. An increase in stipends will be one less thing for students to be worried about and will enable them to be better at their jobs, aka better research output. This will be in the best interests of the students as well the University. A lot of Universities around the US have taken the step to increase graduate student stipends and we hope UNR and UNLV do too. Thank you!

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education (<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Friday, June 3, 2022 7:26:41 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: ortizn1123@gmail.com

Name: Noemi Ortiz

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Workforce agenda item: higher pay for GAs.

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

With the rising price of living in all aspects of life from gas, food, and rent, UNR must keep up in order to not only retain students, but to provide a humane environment for them. Students like my myself are working up to three jobs including the graduate assistantship. We are tired and worn out. This kind of life is not sustainable and leads to burn out, increasing mental health issues, and exhaustion. Please consider us, the students, when you vote on increasing Graduate assistantships.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education (<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Saturday, June 4, 2022 7:22:01 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: riaa@nevada.unr.edu

Name: Ria Anand

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Graduate Student Stipend Increase

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

Writing in strong support of graduate student stipend increase. With the increasing rent, our stipend just meets the need. Specially as international students, we solely depend on our stipends as our source of income. There is a necessity for an increase. Please consider.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Monday, June 6, 2022 6:03:52 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: allisonbartlett@nevada.unr.edu

Name: Allison Bartlett

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Graduate assistantship stipend increase

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

I am a 3rd year PhD student in the Physiology and Cell Biology Department and I am in favor of increasing the Graduate Assistantship stipend. The current Graduate stipend for UNR GA recipients is unacceptable in relation to the increased cost of living in the Reno area. Because of this, I also rely on a second source of income that takes away from the 50+ hours I work as a GA during the week. Luckily I can depend on another source of income where my international colleagues are not so fortunate. Additionally, it should be noted that the undergrad researchers I train in the lab make more money per hour than the GAs do, on average. It could also be argued that our time is more valuable in that regard because aside from mentoring and teaching, we also provide invaluable data collection and grant writing for the purposes and success of the University. Please take this information into consideration, I appreciate your time. Thank you, Allison Bartlett

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Tuesday, June 7, 2022 11:07:53 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: bmorra@nevada.unr.edu

Name: Brian M Morra

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Graduate student pay increases

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

I really wish I could have been present for the meeting, but I have already made previous commitments.

The biggest issue with our current stipend is finding a place to live. I was homeless when I took my comprehensive exams and it was not pleasant. I have moved 3 times since coming to Reno and it has gotten harder every time. Housing insecurity occupies an absurd amount of my mental bandwidth and I currently advise prospective grad students to apply to other schools for this reason.

With roommates the cheapest rent you can find is between 650-700 dollars per person (not including utilities). I know many grad students who pay more than this, and I don't understand how this is possible without augmenting their stipend with their personal savings.

I was fortunate to find a rental at this price because I moved in with a friend and waited for a house within my budget to become available.

Many property management companies ask that your monthly income is 3 times the amount of your rent. I was flat out rejected from one rental because of this. I would propose raising the stipend to at least \$2100 per month after taxes to allow grad students to be able to qualify for the minimum available housing. This is a modest request and would raise our hourly rate from ~\$11 per hour to ~\$12 per hour. Please consider the starting pay of a McDonalds employee that starts around \$15 per hour and covers the full 12 month year rather than 9 months covered by a TA position.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Tuesday, June 7, 2022 2:03:20 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: csarkar@nevada.unr.edu

Name: Chandra Sarkar

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: graduate assistantship stipend increase for all

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

It is no surprise that living costs, especially house rents have increased exponentially in Reno in the past couple of years. As full time students and graduate assistants, it is hard to keep up with the demands of graduate school not only in terms of time and energy but also financially. Last year I got a distressing dog bite and had to rush to the emergency. Sadly I was more worried about paying the hospital bills than the actual pain and trauma from the dog bite. And this is just one instance of many. A lot of times when I've needed to socialize in order to relax and de-stress from the pressures of grad school, I've found myself not doing so because of financial concerns. This is something that in my experience is not just limited to me but other graduate students around me as well. It especially becomes incredibly harder if you are an International student. The stipends are not enough to help us in literally starting and sustaining a new life from scratch thousands of miles away from our own countries. Thus, I am in favor of increasing the stipends of graduate students because of all the reasons I mentioned and more. While our pay remained the same since I joined UNR in 2018, everything else from rent to fuel costs to basic amenities have increased. Additionally, with the current stipend amount, it is impossible for graduate students to maintain a sustainable and healthy lifestyle. This might include- buying better quality food products like organic produce, seeking help for

mental health outside the school's services when needed, getting better health insurances with more coverage, socializing and traveling to enrich our personal and professional lives more than the bare minimum we can do at the moment. We are constantly cutting corners and living paycheck to paycheck even after having above average education and skills. It is therefore only fair to increase our stipends to help us "live" and not "exist on survival mode".

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Tuesday, June 7, 2022 7:58:58 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: lesley@sierrastrategies.net

Name: Lesley Pittman

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: 32

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

I have known Dale Erquiaga for more than 20 years and wholeheartedly endorse his consideration as Chancellor of Nevada's System of Higher Education. Dale's integrity, leadership and vision have served Nevada well over many years and these and other skills he possesses will help lead our higher education system to even greater heights for the benefit of our students, faculty and the reputation of our system as a whole.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education (<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Tuesday, June 7, 2022 9:05:10 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: alex.bybee27@gmail.com

Name: Alex Bybee

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Item 32

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

I enthusiastically support Mr. Erquiaga's appointment to serve as the acting chancellor for the Nevada System of Higher Education. His rich and diverse experience, deep knowledge of systems and policies in Nevada, and commitment to improving education — both K-12 and our college and university system — are all attributes that make him uniquely qualified to fill this post. He leads with strategic vision, a grounded confidence, and empathic heart that will deliver stability and results at a time when they are needed most.

I witnessed Dale lead the advocacy for a significant number of investments and reforms to public education during his tenure as Superintendent of Public Instruction in the 2015 legislative session. His ability to forge bipartisan consensus to move outcomes forward will serve the Nevada System of Higher Education well. Indeed, this skillset is of the utmost importance to move our colleges and universities forward in partnership with legislators.

As a lifelong Nevadan who attended public schools and graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno, having served in student government in both high school and college, I have a deeply vested interest in NSHE having a transformative and proven leader at the helm. I

encourage the Board of Regents to vote in the affirmative for his swift appointment.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Tuesday, June 7, 2022 9:09:03 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: tapadhir@nevada.unr.edu

Name: Tapadhir Das

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Graduate Student Stipend Increase

In Favor / Opposed / Other: No Position stated – Concerned or Neutral

Comment:

With rising costs across the country, especially in the city of Reno, it is becoming very difficult to survive with my graduate stipend. I always worry about the costs I will incur for housing and daily life. Not to mention that housing prices are through the roof right now. Worse of all, it is really hard to save enough for a rainy day. Like incase I have to go to the ER or meet an accident, or my car breaks down. Tuition for graduate students also puts a hole in my account which offsets how much money I am able to save every month. And I know that this is not a unique situation to us. And the graduate student stipend has not increased in the last 4 years. This can be somewhat alleviated with the increase in graduate student stipends.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 8:33:32 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: sylvialazos@gmail.com

Name: Sylvia Lazos

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Selection Dale Erquiaga as Chancellor

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

Dale Erquiaga has experience in the world of education in Nevada at many levels. He also is a “big picture” thinker. And he is committed to using data in policy decision making

As Nevada state superintendent he was behind Gov Sandoval proposal to fund English language learners. Although Nevada has the third highest population of English language learners, not until 2012 did NV allocate funds to support their learning. I have worked with ELL and immigrant groups for 20 years in my role as UNLV law faculty. Having a friend in the Governor’s office like Dale was a major factor in moving Nevada towards more equitable policies in education .

I personally know Dale to be a collaborator with minority communities. In my work as advocate for the Latino and Immigrant communities, I worked closely with him on Zoom and Victory categorical programs. He was open and engaged. His fundamental commitment to equity and opportunities for every child, regardless of her background, was always present in every negotiation.

Dale knows Nevada politics. And he has had experience with the ALL of key players. The Chancellor's job requires this kind of experience.

In addition the job requires a straight shooter and someone who is not afraid of stirring the pot if the goal is the right one. That's Dale

I support his candidacy. He is in a position to do a lot of good for NSHE.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 9:34:30 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: janljblv@gmail.com

Name: Jan Jones Blackhurst

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?: Self

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Public comment

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

I very strongly support the appoint of Dale Erquiaga as acting Chancellor for the NSHE system. He brings the strength, acumen knowledge and stability that would be very valuable at that his time strongly recommend his hiring

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education (<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 9:05:34 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: Punam@punammathur.com

Name: Punam Mathur

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Public Comment on Item #32, Appointment, Acting Chancellor

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

Appointing Dale Erquiaga as Acting Chancellor is not a leap of faith; it is a sure bet. His past record of designing, enacting, then overseeing implementation of strategic and systemic reforms in K-12 is incontrovertible evidence of his capability. As we strive to create an integrated and aligned K-20 system to meet the workforce needs of our rapidly-evolving economy, there is simply no one else in Nevada more qualified and experienced to do the job than Dale.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education (<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 10:34:55 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: elaine@elainewynn.com

Name: Elaine Wynn

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Public Comment on Item #32, Appointment, Acting Chancellor

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

Dear Regents,

I am writing to express my unequivocal support for Dale Erquiaga to become NSHE's Acting Chancellor.

Dale was my partner at the State Board of Education. I saw firsthand how he built bridges, made tough decisions, and worked with the Board and many diverse constituencies to advance the most sweeping education reform in my memory. He worked side-by-side with NSHE throughout his tenure.

I later recruited Dale to become President & CEO of Communities In Schools, the nation's largest and most successful dropout prevention organization. He was an innovator and a fierce advocate for diversity, equity, and inclusion in our large and complex organization.

Dale has the rare ability to diagnose a problem, or spot an opportunity, and design a strategy to address it. He is a fierce advocate for the value of education and has demonstrated his

commitment to the entire state over the course of his lengthy career. He is at his best when the stakes are high, and he is driven by a deep commitment to young people and the opportunities they deserve.

I can think of no leader better suited to this moment. He will be the Board's partner, as he has been mine, and he will find ways to engage all our communities in the work before you.

Elaine Wynn

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 10:37:56 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: loribethnelson@cox.net

Name: Lori Nelson-Kraft

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Appointment, Acting Chancellor

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

I highly support the appointment of Dale Erquiaga as Acting Chancellor for NSHE. I have known and worked with Dale in a variety of capacities throughout Nevada for the past 25 years. He is well-respected, effective and has a proven track record in the State's educational system as well as in the private and public sectors. He has extensive expertise in shaping and executing public policy. He is strategic and results-driven in how he approaches what is in the best interest of the entities he represents and is well-regarded by his direct reports and those he reports to. Dale understands how to seek and use input from all key stakeholders to help tackle, solve and leverage issues/challenges and opportunities. Nevada's Higher Education System and the future of our next generation would benefit from having Dale at the helm, in an acting or even permanent capacity.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education (<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 11:06:11 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: jgeihs@nasanv.org

Name: Dr. Jeffrey Geihs

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: In support of Dale Erquiaga – please read into the record as I cannot be present.

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

Dear Board of Regents:

My name is Jeff Geihs and I serve as the Executive Director of the Nevada Association of School Administrators, Nevada's PreK-12 professional development and advocacy organization.

I am writing you today to personally endorse Dale Erquiaga to become your next Chancellor. I have known Dale for nearly 25 years and I have worked with him in various capacities.

I first came to know Mr. Erquiaga when he worked in The Clark County School District's Community and Government Relations office. He would call on me and others to coordinate testimony around various pieces of proposed legislation. What always impressed me most was his friendly and professional demeanor, even when dealing with individuals that had alternative views. He took the approach of someone that wanted to teach, rather than debate.

When I served on the Committee for Professional Standards, Dale was the State

Superintendent of Instruction. There I witnessed his strength in standing for positions that were in the best interest of Nevada's children PreK-12. He exuded passion, great intention, and care everywhere I saw him speak. He represented with sincerity, which led to policy and law that improved conditions for students and teachers.

When I supervised The Turnaround School's Zone in CCSD, Dale served as the CEO of Communities in Schools, an organization which helped us serve the poorest children in our community. Even though Dale was the CEO, he was always responsive, down-to-earth, and willing to find ways to make things work when our budgets were tight.

Regents, I can say emphatically to you that Dale Erquiaga's attributes I outlined above are inherent to his personality and, therefore, would transfer to serving as your next Chancellor. No matter our individual opinions on a host of matters, we all want what is best for our community and our PreK-16 (and beyond) students. Mr. Erquiaga is a bridge builder and will bring that to your board!

Thank you.

Dr. Jeffrey Geihs

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 11:16:55 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: velstand@cox.net

Name: Glenn Christenson

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Agenda item 32 – Appoint Acting Chancellor or General Public Comment whichever is more appropriate.

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

Chair McAdoo, Board of Regents:

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support for the appointment of Dale Erquiaga to the position of Acting Chancellor of NSHE.

I have worked with Dale on several initiatives over the years and believe he shares my passion for improving our education system in Nevada and the importance of the education system in expanding and diversifying our economy.

Based on my interactions with him and Dale's experience over the course of his career, I am certain he is exceptionally qualified to serve as Acting Chancellor and possesses the skill set needed for this critical role.

His approach to problem solving will allow him to work well with the various constituencies that are part of the higher education system. This ability should help him given the difficult

challenges ahead, especially when those constituencies are at odds.

Finally, I would encourage the Board to begin a process as soon as is practicable to conduct a national search to attract and retain the next permanent Chancellor.

Thank you,
Glenn Christenson

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 1:51:53 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: dlee-nett@cox.net

Name: Daphne Lee

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?: Health Freedom Nevada

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: General Public Comment

In Favor / Opposed / Other: No Position stated – Concerned or Neutral

Comment:

On behalf of Health Freedom Nevada and the thousands of Nevadans we represent across the state, I am writing once again to ask that you rescind the medical mandates this board has placed upon graduate students and staff. I would like to reiterate our stance against them, and remind you all about the negative impacts that these mandates have upon our communities. Please rescind the mandates you have placed upon staff/grad students for they limit the hiring of many community members who would be great assets to our higher education system. I was shocked after the firing of hundreds of our staff members and professors that the Chancellor had the audacity to complain about staffing shortages. It was so tone deaf. Please allow adults to be adults and make their own medical decisions. I would hope that you would all take the time to read this publication from the British Medical Journal that outlines in great detail how medical mandates cause more harm than good, especially towards marginalized and minority communities, and find it within yourselves to do the right thing and lift them. The evidence has grown that these mandates do not even accomplish their intended goals and have become irrelevant. Religious testing through arbitrary exemption acceptance are also deeply bothersome to me. If we want to attract the talent we need and want in our schools, we should not limit the pool of applicants with medical or religious discrimination. I have heard a lot of

empty rhetoric about “equity” from this board, but it rings quite shallow knowing that the real consequences of these kind of decisions are anything but equitable. Thank you for time and consideration.

<https://gh.bmj.com/content/bmjgh/7/5/e008684.full.pdf>

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 1:57:23 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: tmurphy951@gmail.com

Name: Teresa (Terry) Murphy

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?: I'm representing myself.

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Please accept my comments on item 32 on the Board of Regents Agenda in unreserved support for the appointment of Mr. Dale A.R. Erquiaga as Acting Chancellor of NSHE.

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

As the NSHE Code clearly states, the appointment of an Acting Chancellor (rather than Interim), lays the foundation for a search process to occur, such process to be determined in an open meeting by the Board of Regents and further by an ad hoc Regents' Chancellor Search Committee. In my view, such a process is clearly needed at this time, and as the NSHE code anticipates, should be facilitated by an Acting Chancellor.

I've known Dale Erquiaga for twenty five years, having first served together on the policy team for the Guinn for Governor Campaign, and then as members of the Governors Committee to Conduct a Fundamental Review of State Government. Dale has always been an innovator, a change maker, and a leader of high caliber and utmost integrity. He is wholly invested in leaving every organization he serves better than he found it. I've no doubt his goal is the same with NSHE. Appointing an Acting rather than Interim Chancellor provides the Board with the opportunity, should they wish, to revise their procedures prior to conducting a search. Given Dale's thorough understanding of state government, his participation as an

advisor in shaping the higher education funding formula as well as having served as Nevada's Superintendent of Education and national director for Communities in Schools makes him well suited to assist the Board as it endeavors to engage in the process of recruiting and selecting a permanent Chancellor.

As a graduate of UNLV (BA, 1989, MA 1991), former instructor and Manager at the UNLV Center for Survey Research, founding member of the College of Liberal Arts Community Advisory Board under Dean James Frey, it is without reservation that I recommend Mr. Erquiaga for the position of Acting Chancellor. I also commend the Board for considering such a wide ranging, open process as they conduct a search for a permanent Chancellor. Given the diversity of our student population, it is my hope that any search be international in scope.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education (<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 2:29:46 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: leimer.jason@gmail.com

Name: Jason Leimer

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Rescind vaccine mandate

In Favor / Opposed / Other: No Position stated – Concerned or Neutral

Comment:

I want to see the nshe rescind the Covid vaccine mandate as these mandates which are illegal have hurt the staff of the universities and colleges and why are we mandating a shot that doesn't work.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 2:23:37 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: cruzjaime@cox.net

Name: Jaime Cruz

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Item 32

In Favor / Opposed / Other: No Position stated – Concerned or Neutral

Comment:

Since the announcement of the agenda item for a potential appointment of an acting chancellor, there have been many comments around the transparency and/or due diligence of the process for the appointment. I am hoping that the commentary does not take away from the fact that Dale Erquiaga is tremendously qualified for the position and with certainty would do an amazing job. I have had the opportunity to work with Dale in his roles as Nevada's State Superintendent of Education, Governor's Chief Strategy Officer, CEO of Communities in Schools and his current role as Executive Director of the Guinn Center. In every role, Dale has proven to be a fair, inclusive and pragmatic leader that has improved every organization he was a part of. Given the current circumstances, I consider ourselves to be fortunate to have such a qualified Nevadan willing to step up and serve our state again. Please do not allow the process to detract from the obvious leadership qualifications that Dale Erquiaga would bring to this position.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

--

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Tuesday, June 7, 2022 11:55:12 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: attorneygeneral@asun.unr.edu

Name: Jakob Schein

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?: Myself

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Cooperative extension

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

Hello- my name is Jakob schein, I currently attend unr and I am a food insecure student. I utilize unrs programs like pack provisions to get food, but this program would further assist my conditions. I would encourage the BOR to continue looking into programs to fight food insecurity.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 7:11:33 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: dana.jean.rider@gmail.com

Name: Dana Rider

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Graduate stipend increases

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

My name is Dana Rider and I am a graduate student and graduate teaching assistant at UNR in the Department of English. I have just finished my first year of the three-year MFA program after moving to Reno from the midwest. I'm writing to speak about item 15, the biennial operating budget. I urge the Regents to prioritize stipend increases for graduate assistants statewide in their biennial budget request. Grad students often come from places other than Nevada, myself included, which lands us in a place especially vulnerable to this truly aggressive rental market and significantly increasing costs of living. A stipend increase will help us combat those pressures, which in turn will allow us to be the stellar students and teachers that were admitted to the school. A stipend increase is an investment in the reputation and success of all UNR's graduate programs.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education (<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 7:28:53 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: mblane@nevada.unr.edu

Name: Michael Blane

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Item 15

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

My name is Michael Blane and I am a graduate student and TA at UNR. I earned my master's degree at unr and now I am in the first year of a PhD program in the math department. I'm here to speak about item 15, the biennial operating budget. I urge the Regents to prioritize stipend increases for graduate assistants statewide in their biennial budget request.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education (<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 4:49:59 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: denice.miller@me.com

Name: Denice Miller

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: 32. APPOINTMENT, ACTING CHANCELLOR

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

I write to express my strong support for the appointment of Dale Erquiaga as Acting Chancellor.

I have known Dale for nearly 30 years, beginning when I worked for the Nevada Legislature and he, for the Secretary of State. Over those three decades, we have been colleagues in various professional capacities, in state government and in business, in both the north and the south of this state. I consider him also the finest of friends. Perhaps some would say that, as a friend, I am not qualified to make a recommendation for this professional appointment; yet it is with honor and pride that I do so recommend him. Dale would bring high ethical standards, critical judgment, and wide administrative and policy experience to the role. Moreover, Dale is unsurpassed in his ability to navigate complex organizations, identify problems, and assist in the crafting of solutions.

The Regents would do well to approve Dale's appointment as Acting Chancellor. NSHE – and most importantly, the students of Nevada – would benefit immeasurably from his service at this critical point in time, during which Regents will consider who should be made permanent

chancellor.

Many years ago, Dale Erquiaga made the choice to be a public servant. He has returned to that responsibility more than once. More than anyone I have ever known, Dale understands and respects the trust that the public places in those who serve them. This state, his home state, should hope that he has the opportunity to undertake such a role one last time.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 7:45:13 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: adiethelm@unr.edu

Name: Aramee Diethelm

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Public Comment

In Favor / Opposed / Other: No Position stated – Concerned or Neutral

Comment:

As noted in a recent article in the prestigious journal Nature, wages for PhD students in the biological sciences at almost every institution and department in the United States do not cover the basic cost of living. Those of us in the Ecology Evolution and Conservation Biology (EECB) graduate program are struggling with inflation and rising costs of rent. Earning less than a living wage increases student stress, decreases the the quality of teaching that undergraduates receive from graduate TAs, and the impacts the quality of the research that graduate students are doing.

Yet even with the graduate school at UNR, there are inconsistencies across disciplines. Students in the EECB / Biology program are paid less than students in Molecular Biosciences graduate program, for working the same teaching hours. A fair wage across the life sciences program would create more equity and make a place for students from lower socioeconomic groups in the EECB program. The current financial burdens are hitting non-traditional students the hardest.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 10:54:53 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: lfrick@nevada.unr.edu

Name: Lauren Frick

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Increasing Graduate Assistant Stipends

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

My name is Lauren Frick and I'll be a Master's student and teaching assistant at UNR beginning in the fall of 2022. I am writing today to advocate for an increase in graduate assistant stipends. When I was deciding what graduate program I wanted to attend, UNR was at the top of my list, but I almost didn't accept the offer because of how worried I am about being able to financially support myself throughout my time in the program. Prices of everything continue to go up. Finding reasonably priced housing in Reno is near impossible. Luckily, I will be living in graduate student housing, but the cost of rent has increased from last year. The cost of a parking pass is increasing for the 2022-2023 school year. More than half of my stipend will be spent on these two things alone, which doesn't leave me much room for additional fees and costs that I will incur, like books and gas and groceries. If these necessary costs are increasing, it only makes sense that graduate assistant stipends will increase as well.

While I am very appreciative of the fact that I am able to attend a funded program, I will be quite frank when I say that the graduate student stipend offered by UNR is not competitive with what other public institutions are offering. If UNR wants to continue to attract students to

its graduate programs and continue the work of an R1 institution, then the stipend needs to be on par with what other institutions are offering. Graduate students do research for the university and teach classes at the university, and we can't do a good job if we're worried about whether or not we'll be able to afford groceries this week or if we'll be able to pay rent next month.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this very important issue.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 11:47:57 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: akhandaker@nevada.unr.edu

Name: Afsana Mim Khandaker

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Please increase the salary of graduate students

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

Please increase the salary of graduate students

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Thursday, June 9, 2022 5:15:46 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: keithaweaver1@me.com

Name: Keith

Address: Weaver

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Dale Erquiaga for Chancellor

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

Dale Erquiaga seems like the perfect fit for Acting Chancellor. He has a proven commitment to education at all levels and is committed consensus builder.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Thursday, June 9, 2022 6:26:36 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: caryndreibelbis@gmail.com

Name: Caryn Dreibelbis

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Item 15

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

My name is Caryn Dreibelbis and I am a graduate student and TA at UNR in the MFA program . I'm here to speak about item 15, the biennial operating budget. I urge the Regents to prioritize stipend increases for graduate assistants statewide in their biennial budget request. Although I am very fortunate and have a spouse working full time (in addition to the side job I work that contractually we are not supposed to have — I imagine, and hope, that I would not be terminated for this admission as it is an earnest attempt to explain the choices that must be made to make the stipend work for my spouse and I), the stipend has been unlivable for my friends that are not similarly situated. Due to the financial pressure as well as workload outside of their course work, many students who would have been otherwise successful in my program have left. It may not have been the sole cause of their departure, but it was a chief cause. Previously, the stipend was too low for the Reno housing market, but now students are facing inflation that is likely here to stay. The combination of these two factors makes the situation untenable — it is past time to act. I am deeply grateful for my stipend, my education, and for the opportunity to develop my teaching resume/educate students, but my gratefulness does not prevent me from seeing our labor is undercompensated. The University will not be able to retain talent if responsible, fair, and ethical decisions are not proactively made now.

Who could blame a student for leaving if they know staying will not further their health, safety, or opportunity to be successful? Churning the bottom is rarely an effective operational strategy (though it seems to be rampantly popular).

Best,

Caryn Dreibelbis
Nevada Graduate Student Workers

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Thursday, June 9, 2022 8:39:59 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: ljprescott@gmail.com

Name: Leah Prescott

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Item 15

In Favor / Opposed / Other: No Position stated – Concerned or Neutral

Comment:

My name is Leah Prescott and I am a graduate assistant at UNR. I'm here to speak about item 15, the biennial operating budget. I urge the Regents to prioritize stipend increases for graduate assistants statewide in their biennial budget request. With rising housing costs and inflation, current stipends are not enough for students and excludes a lot of potential new students from attending and producing research here due to economic barriers.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education (<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Thursday, June 9, 2022 9:53:00 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: cadkins@unr.edu

Name: Casey Adkins

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Item 15

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

I am writing to ask you to increase the graduate assistant stipend at UNR. I am a PhD student in the EECB program, where I have been worked as a graduate research assistant and teaching assistant. During my time at UNR, I have consistently heard the phrase "graduate students are the backbone of the university" which is a nice compliment but often feels empty when we are not compensated accordingly.

I understand and value that part of the perk of working as a graduate assistant is the tuition waiver, but I cannot pay my bills with or eat credit hours. Additionally, the student fees associated with those credits, which students are responsible for paying, have increased while our stipends have not. Depending on the number of credits taken a year, paying those student fees can be 8-10% of our annual salary.

Please read the recent publication in Nature "PhD students face cash crisis with wages that don't cover living cost" written by Chris Woolston. The exploitation of graduate workers is not isolated to UNR, as it is a national problem almost all public universities in the US are a part of. I am asking you to be a part of the solution by raising stipends to reflect our expertise,

value, and the increasing living cost. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Thursday, June 9, 2022 8:56:32 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: morganlong@nevada.unr.edu

Name: Morgan Long

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Agenda Item 15. – 2023 – 2025 Biennial Operating Budget Request for the 2023 Legislative Session: Student Concerns: Increasing Graduate Assistant (GA) Stipends & State Funded GA Positions

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

Stipend increases for graduate students is an issue that affects every person affiliated with the University of Nevada system. Graduate students teach, carry out research, publish papers that bring attention to the university, and contribute in innumerable ways to the community here. We deserve to be compensated fairly and with a living wage for all that we do.

At this university, students struggle with burnout and stress at high rates; and financial insecurity is one of the causes of that stress. In Reno, average rent is steadily increasing; forcing students to live in sub-optimal housing situations or work additional jobs which takes time and energy away from their responsibilities at the university, just in order to afford housing. Based on a Living Wage Calculator created by MIT: the required annual wage for one adult in Reno is \$33,398 before taxes; which is well below the \$19,000 that the highest earning graduate students currently receive for a ten month assistantship. Additionally, every semester students are required to pay additional fees; and what I have owed personally have ranged from \$700 to \$900 per semester, which means that students are paying 10% of their

annual income in fees each year.

Insufficient pay not only greatly impacts current students, but also impacts recruitment of new graduate students to the university. With the current stipends, it is very difficult to come into graduate school without money saved. This then becomes an equity issue, and makes higher education fully inaccessible to those who may not have the ability to save money before entering graduate school. Removing barriers to entry will allow people from a wider spectrum of backgrounds to participate in higher ed.

On behalf of myself and other current students, I strongly urge you to support this legislative ask. A significant and meaningful stipend increase for graduate students is long overdue, and will improve working and living conditions for graduate students.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Thursday, June 9, 2022 9:54:52 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: randysmith@unr.edu

Name: Randy Smith

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Support of Graduate Teaching Assistant Stipend and Grant-in-Aide raise

In Favor / Opposed / Other: No Position stated – Concerned or Neutral

Comment:

As a current graduate student and Graduate Teaching Assistant, the rising costs in Reno, NV have pushed me to seek additional employment outside of my GTA. Because the stipend provided by my GTA does not cover the cost-of-living in Reno, I currently work 55 hours a week, across 4 jobs, while carrying a full-time course load. Because of this, I cannot involve myself in the collegiate life of UNR; I fear these missed opportunities will harm my vocation and professional life in the long run.

Currently, I have a 15-hour GTA; however, because my department may not have the funds, my GTA may drop to 10 hours, thus reducing my stipend below my cost of rent. Currently, a 15- hour GTA provides \$1200 a month, after taxes I bring home \$1089. If dropped to a 10-hour GTA, after taxes I will make less than \$700.

With the cost-of-living reaching Bay Area and LA prices, our GTA benefits being nearly 50% less than that of other Graduate Schools in the nation, NSHE benefiting off the intellectual property of its graduate students, and a lack of COLA increase over the last several years I am hopeful that the Board of Regents will see the needs of graduate students and invest further

into our educational and teaching futures.

Universities across the United States—including UNR—boast of wage increases that graduate students will attain over their lifetime(<https://www.unr.edu/liberal-arts/applied-liberal-arts/careers>); meanwhile, it is expected of graduate students to live in poverty while receiving that education. Graduate Teaching Assistants are discouraged from obtaining additional work (<https://www.unr.edu/grad/admissions/funding/assistantships>); thus, creating a paradox for all graduate students and their living situation. We simply ask for funding to the extent that we can live without fear of hunger or eviction. Please, invest in us as we have chosen to invest in the Nevada System of Higher Education.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education (<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Thursday, June 9, 2022 10:40:13 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: caknight@unr.edu

Name: Christopher Knight

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: General Public Comment

In Favor / Opposed / Other: No Position stated – Concerned or Neutral

Comment:

Graduate Stipends must be increased. Housing prices in Reno are exponentially higher than five years ago. The economy is impacted by Covid-19. As a University, we must support our fellow Graduate students to ensure success in their field, maintain high retention and graduation rates, and provide widespread knowledge that the University of Nevada, Reno, not only hears, but LISTENS to their students, especially when they're financially struggling.

An increase in Graduate stipends would lessen financial worries and increase overall security for graduate students. To pay for my rent and basic necessities, I had to work my 20 hour GA-ship, and another 10+ hours a week research assistantship. To assume other students are not suffering and required to do the same as I have is naïve at best, or simply ignorant.

More funding for graduate stipends means more security for students. This equates to more focus and better work produced. The investment of higher stipends will have an immediate and profound impact on us all.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Thursday, June 9, 2022 10:31:50 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: Molly.Appel@nsc.edu

Name: Molly Appel

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: 32. APPOINTMENT, ACTING CHANCELLOR

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Opposition

Comment:

I am a faculty member at NSC and incoming Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate. I am concerned over the content and outcome of Document BOR-32a / Regents McAdoo's June 1 memorandum regarding the vacancy in the office of the chancellor.

It suggests that Regent McAdoo did the utmost minimum to uphold the process for vetting and selecting a proposed interim Chancellor. I implore the Regents to put trust-building and transparency first and adopt a more extensive process and discussion for this selection. The recommendations of the June 9th letter from the AFL-CIO and chambers of commerce would go a long way toward this end. At the very minimum, create space for us to hear from the Mr. Erquiaga on several critical questions related to his knowledge and perspectives on issues facing higher education. As Maureen Shaffer wrote in the NVIndy: what is his understanding of the profile of today's college students? Of the mandate of the MSIs, HSI's, and ANAPISI institutions of NSHE? Of academic research and faculty collective bargaining?

We need our next chancellor to be able to answer these questions. At the very least, we need to see that they are invested in us by thinking about them deeply.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Thursday, June 9, 2022 12:41:39 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: atatarko09@gmail.com

Name: Anna Tatarko

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Graduate student stipend

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

I am writing in support of a graduate student stipend increase. The stipends we get are barely enough to cover basic costs of living in Reno. Cost of living continues to increase, but the stipend has not kept pace. Studio apartments are rarely under \$1,000 in this city and gas prices alone are \$6/gallon. The increase of \$100 a month was not enough, and stipends should continue to increase so our graduate student population can focus on their studies and not financial struggles.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education (<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Thursday, June 9, 2022 12:41:52 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: ybwilliams@gmail.com

Name: Yvette

Address: Williams

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: General Comment

In Favor / Opposed / Other: No Position stated – Concerned or Neutral

Comment:

Dear Committee Chair and members of this committee,
I'm writing today in support of Dale Erquiaga for Chancellor for higher education in Nevada. I have worked with him over the years at CCSD, NDE and he has always put students first. As a community advocate and Chair of Clark County Black Caucus we have worked directly with Dale to move education policy forward that has set a high bar for the rest of our Nation to replicate that address education equity, inclusion, and justice. Going as far back as over a decade in CCSD through our work on the Superintendents Education Opportunity Advisory Committee to many various boards and committees at Nevada Dept of Education. One I'm most proud of is his leadership in writing the Nevada ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) that received accolades from US Dept Ed for its innovative and transformative mandates, while implementing strategies that help reduce the proficiency gap of historically marginalized student groups. Dale is a proven leader, who works collaboratively, values input and engagement from the community, and gets the tasks at hand done at a high standard. I believe he would bring this tenacity to higher education along with his experience of working with the Nevada Legislature to the benefit of all students in Nevada. Therefore, I highly support this nomination.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Warm regards,
Yvette Williams

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Thursday, June 9, 2022 12:46:55 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: moultfam@gmail.com

Name: Sheila R Moulton

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: #32

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

I am in support of appointing Dale Erquiaga as Acting Chancellor. He has the ability to help all come to a consensus and work well together. Dale worked with the CCSD Board of Trustees in the 2000's to promote Policy Governance and the ability for all Trustees to feel engaged in the work towards student achievement. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this in support of his appointment.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education (<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Thursday, June 9, 2022 1:09:17 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: aparandhaman@nevada.unr.edu

Name: Anjana Parandhaman

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: General Public Comment

In Favor / Opposed / Other: No Position stated – Concerned or Neutral

Comment:

I'm writing in support of a discussion to increase graduate student stipends for the University of Nevada Reno. The cost of living has increased dramatically in Reno and this has not been reflected in the stipends that graduate students receive. An increase in our stipend would greatly benefit all, and would also promote better work environments.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education (<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Thursday, June 9, 2022 1:56:32 PM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: hhaddox@tmcc.edu

Name: Heather Haddox

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?: Part-Time faculty at Truckee Meadows Community College

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Pay increase for graduate assistant

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Opposition

Comment:

June 5, 2022

Esteemed Board of Regents,

My name is Heather Haddox, and I am a part-time instructor at Truckee Meadows Community College and have worked for Nevada System of Higher Education since 2015 teaching every semester including summers. I was teacher of the year in 2021 and have been awarded Part-Time Faculty of the Month twice and nominated for the Career Champion award which is a nomination by students. I was nominated and served two academic terms as the Part-Time Faculty Senate Representative in 2020 and 2021 and have advocated for better benefits for part-time faculty at TMCC in the Part-Time Committee.

I'm writing today because I am concerned about a recent proposal that will increase the pay for graduate assistants through NSHE while excluding part-time faculty from this pay increase. Part-time instructors at TMCC teach about 45% of classes and are a vital part of the academic community and retention efforts throughout NSHE. In a survey we conducted two

years ago at TMCC, we noted that over 70% of part-time instructors are concerned that they are not compensated for the level of education they have. If NSHE is considering a pay increase for graduate assistants, who may have fewer academic qualifications and less experience compared with part-time faculty, how is this equitable?

Nationwide research suggests that 40% of part-time faculty struggle to meet basic needs, about 25% of adjuncts rely on public assistance, and only about 15% of adjunct faculty say they can comfortably provide for themselves. How can part-time faculty be treated ethically if they are living in poverty? If pay increases are only for graduate assistants, this will devalue part-time faculty. I urge you to include part-time faculty in this pay increase and remember that the NSHE institutions are reliant on part-time faculty to continue moving forward. You have an opportunity here that I hope won't be missed.

Thank you,
Heather Haddox

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education
(<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Friday, June 10, 2022 8:50:34 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: judy.tudor@clarkcountynv.gov

Name: Judy Tudor

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Item #27

In Favor / Opposed / Other: In Favor

Comment:

As an alumni of the foster care system and an advocate for foster youth, I urge the Board of Regents to approve the requested changes to the Foster Youth Fee Waiver policy. Thus far this program has increased the opportunities for foster youth to achieve their goals for a college education. Please increase the population eligible for this waiver to age 13. Thank you for your commitment to our foster youth.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education (<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)

From: [WordPress](#)
To: [Keri Nikolajewski](#); [Angela Palmer](#); [Winter Lipson](#)
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022
Date: Friday, June 10, 2022 10:35:33 AM

Public comment submitted through NSHE Online form

Public Comment for the Board of Regents Meeting, June 9-10, 2022

Email: helenkesting@gmail.com

Name: Helen Kesting

Address:

Phone Number:

Representing someone other than yourself?:

Meeting: Board of Regents Meeting

Meeting Date: June 9-10, 2022

Agenda Item: Agenda Item 15

In Favor / Opposed / Other: No Position stated – Concerned or Neutral

Comment:

I am a master's student and graduate research assistant at UNR studying ecology and hydrology. I urge the Regents to prioritize stipend increases for graduate assistants statewide in their biennial budget request. The current stipend does not constitute a living wage. Personally, I struggle to afford essential costs like rent, utilities, gas, and food, especially with rising inflation. These financial struggles have discouraged me from continuing my education as a PhD student. I am fortunate to have financial support from my family and my partner, so I can only imagine how much of a barrier this low stipend is to those who are less privileged than I am.

Agreed that all the information above is true and accurate: Yes

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Nevada System of Higher Education (<https://nshe.nevada.edu>)