

# **BOARD OF REGENTS BRIEFING PAPER**

## **1. AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Code Revision, Joint Faculty Appointments for Schools of Medicine**

**MEETING DATE:** December 12, 2023

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

Community based medical schools have affiliations with hospitals and health systems to meet the needs of their academic programs. The affiliations range from limited agreements for medical student or resident education to broad affiliations that integrate the leadership and functions of the institutions.

In June, 2021, the Board of Regents approved the Affiliation Agreement between University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine (UNR Med) and Renown Health (Renown), which is a broad affiliation. The affiliation agreement is a fifty-year commitment with the goal to enhance shared missions in medical education, clinical research and clinical service in pursuit of a common vision: A Healthy Nevada. The Affiliation Agreement established integrated leadership, e.g. the dean of UNR Med is the Chief Academic officer of Renown Health and the President of the University of Nevada, Reno is a member of the Renown Board of Directors. The Agreement integrated clinical services, teaching and clinical research operations across UNR Med and Renown Health. The Affiliation recognizes that there will be UNR Med employed faculty, Renown employed faculty, and Dual Appointed faculty, meaning that the faculty have appointments at both UNR Med and Renown.

In Section 4.2(a) of the Affiliation Agreement, UNR Med and Renown agreed to establish a unified title series for employees as follows: “Following the Affiliation Effective Date, Renown and UNR Med will jointly develop, through collaboration of the Dean/ Chief Academic Officer, the President of the University of Nevada, Reno and CEO of Renown Health, proposed amendments to the Nevada System of Higher Education handbook to establish a unified academic faculty track and title series reflecting integration of the academic missions, academic expectations and standards, institutional culture and roles among all UNR Med employed faculty, Renown employed faculty and Dual Appointed faculty.”

In furtherance of Section 4.2(a) of the Affiliation Agreement, the University of Nevada, Reno, on behalf of its School of Medicine, proposes the following addition to NSHE Code 5.4.11:

#### **Existing NSHE Code**

##### **5.4.11 Joint Faculty Appointments for Schools of Medicine**

1. Joint faculty appointments are a subtype of NSHE adjunct faculty appointments below 1.0 FTE for the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Medicine. A joint appointment may be assigned to a clinician who is employed by an external institution, including hospitals, that has an affiliation agreement with an NSHE institution. A joint appointment includes expectations for teaching and supervision of NSHE students and medical residents, as specified in the terms of each appointment.
2. Joint faculty appointments pursuant to this Section shall be included under a Professor of Clinical Medicine series

#### **Proposed Addition to Code Section 5.4.11:**

***3. University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine may establish a unified academic title series and faculty tracks for the non-tenure track clinician faculty it employs and the joint faculty employed by an affiliated hospital. The title series and faculty tracks shall be developed and agreed upon by the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine and affiliated hospital, subject to approval by***

*the University President, and reported to the chancellor.*

Exhibit 1.

Although the UNLV School of Medicine does not currently need this Code change, it does not oppose it.

This code change was presented for information at the September 7-8, 2023 Board meeting.

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

University of Nevada, Reno President Brian Sandoval requests approval of a revision to the NSHE Code (*Title 2, Chapter 5, Section 5.4.11*) authorizing UNR Med to develop a unified academic title series and faculty tracks for non-tenure track clinician faculty it employs and the joint faculty employed by an affiliated hospital, subject to agreement by the affiliated hospital, approval by the University President, and reporting to the Chancellor.

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

The Affiliation Agreement between UNR Med and Renown Health calls for the establishment of the academic title series and faculty tracks in the Handbook.

**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)

**X Not Applicable to NSHE Strategic Plan Goals**

**INDICATE HOW THE PROPOSAL SUPPORTS THE SPECIFIC STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL**

N/A

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

- The UNR Med and Renown Health Affiliation calls for the establishment of a unified academic track and title series in section 4.2; implementation of this section demonstrates our commitment to and compliance with the affiliation agreement and required integration.
- The request promotes alignment with the academic mission of the school and creates a unified academic identity with our affiliate partner, Renown Health, to fulfill the academic and educational requirements of our medical school.
- Establishment of this series is critical to ensure sufficiency of faculty in order to meet requirements from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), our accreditation body.

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

No arguments against have been identified.

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

As the affiliation agreement states that amendments will be proposed to establish a unified academic track and title series, an alternative approach does not exist.

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

The Chancellor's Office recommends approval.

**10. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:**

Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title # \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter # \_\_\_\_\_ Section # \_\_\_\_\_  
xAmends Current Board Policy: Title # 2 Chapter # 5 Section # 5.4.11  
 Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter # \_\_\_\_\_ Section # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
X Fiscal Impact: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No x  
Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**POLICY PROPOSAL - HANDBOOK**  
**TITLE 2, CHAPTER 5, SECTION 5.4.11**  
**Joint Faculty Appointments for Schools of Medicine**

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

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EXHIBIT 1