

## **BOARD OF REGENTS BRIEFING PAPER**

### **1. AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Upcoming Vacancies in the Office of President, Great Basin College (GBC)**

**MEETING DATE:** November 30 – December 1, 2023

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

GBC President Helens announced her intent to retire effective June 30, 2024, and to not seek a contract renewal. In light of this future vacancy in the Office of the GBC President, and in accordance with Title 2, Chapter 1, Section 1.5.5 of the Board of Regents Handbook, on November 3, 2023, Interim Chancellor Charlton and Chair of the Board Brooks met with GBC's "major constituencies, including the representatives of faculty and classified senates or their equivalents, and student government representatives of the institution to receive their suggestions and input for the appointment of an acting or interim President."

Participation by the GBC community included representatives from:

26 GBC academic and administrative faculty (forum);  
18 GBC classified staff (forum);  
6 GBC campus leaders (executive team, deans, and executive directors);  
2 GBC Site Directors;  
8 GBC Foundation members and GBC Institutional Advisory Council members;  
12 GBC Community Leaders; and  
9 GBC students.

Stakeholder participation was consistent with Title 2, Chapter 1, Section 1.5.5 and included representatives of the faculty and classified senates, along with student government representatives. Additional discussions included representatives of the executive and leadership staff, site directors, faculty, students, institutional advisory council, foundation trustees and community representatives.

Overall, there was a consensus among GBC constituents that it would be appropriate for the Board of Regents to appoint Dr. Amber Donnelly as GBC Interim President. The GBC constituents also expressed a strong desire for the Board of Regents to appoint an individual with existing connections to the general GBC community, and who has a deep understanding of the mission of a rural college, such as GBC. A minority of the GBC constituents indicated that the Board of Regents also consider a search process for the position of GBC president.

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

Interim Chancellor Charlton requests approval for Dr. Amber Donnelly to be appointed as GBC Interim President effective July 1, 2024, pursuant to Title 2, Chapter 1, Section 1.5.5 of the Board of Regents Handbook. An employment contract and terms for such appointment will be presented to the Board of Regents at a future meeting, prior to June 30, 2024.

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

The GBC presidential vacancy will occur in June 2024. On November 3, 2023, well in advance of that vacancy, Interim Chancellor Charlton and Board of Regents Chair Brooks interviewed both internal and external stakeholders, in accordance with Board of Regents policies and procedures, in order to ascertain if an Acting President or Interim President should be identified and for the Board to determine if a presidential search would be initiated. These interviews were held in that time frame to allow time for a search, if a search were to be recommended, and to allow for a smooth leadership transition, if an Interim President were to be recommended.

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

- ☐ Access (Increase access to higher education)
- ☐ Success (Improve student success)

- ☐ Close Institutional Performance Gaps
- ☐ Workforce (Meet workforce needs in Nevada)
- ☐ Research (Increase solutions-focused research)
- ☒ Coordination, Accountability, and Transparency (Ensure system coordination, accountability, and transparency)
- ☐ Not Applicable to NSHE Strategic Plan Goals

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

None have been advanced.

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

N/A

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

The Chancellor's Office supports the discussion and seeks direction from the Board.

**11. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:**

- X Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title #2 Chapter #1 Section #1.5.5.
- ☐ Amends Current Board Policy: Title #\_\_\_\_\_ Chapter #\_\_\_\_\_ Section #\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter #\_\_\_\_\_ Section #\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Other:\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Fiscal Impact: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- Explain: \_The cost to hire a search consultant may exceed \$25,000.

**Amber Donnelly, PhD, RN, CNE**

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**OBJECTIVE:**

Dedicated and visionary leader with a proven track record in academia, seeking the position of Interim President of Great Basin College to drive institutional excellence, foster academic innovation, and promote a culture of student success.

**EDUCATION:**

- **Doctor of Philosophy, Nursing Education**  
University of Nevada Las Vegas, August 2011
- **Master of Science in Nursing (MSN), Concentration: Nursing Education**  
University of Phoenix, May 2007
- **Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)**  
University of Phoenix, November 2005
- **Associate of Science of Nursing (RN)**  
Great Basin College, May 2001

**LICENSE:**

Nevada Registered Nurse License – RN37533

**CERTIFICATIONS:**

Certified Nurse Educator (CNE), National League for Nursing  
Adult Mental Health First Aid Trained

**ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE:**

**Associate Vice President of Faculty Success**

Great Basin College, 2023-Current

**Government Affairs Officer**

**Academic Success Supervision**

- Oversee academic support units, ensuring best practices and current technologies in student learning support.
- Manage and develop program transfer and articulation agreements and academic initiatives in collaboration with faculty and deans.
- Collaborate with Instructional Technology department and college faculty to incorporate strategies and best practices for classroom learning.

**Faculty Leadership and Assessment**

- Provide leadership for recruitment, selection, and evaluation of full-time faculty.
- Oversee the quality of instruction by part-time faculty.
- Lead college-wide assessment planning in collaboration with faculty and staff, deans, and the Institutional Research and Effectiveness office.

### **Academic Program Reviews and Strategic Planning**

- Provide leadership for academic program reviews.
- Assist with oversight of program advisory committees.
- Assist the Accreditation Liaison.
- In conjunction with the deans and directors, coordinate program reviews and program advisory committee meetings.
- Plan, implement, and analyze student-centered class schedule in collaboration with academic and student affairs divisions.
- Periodically review and update academic policy and procedure documents such as the faculty handbook, curriculum development guidance, and the faculty credentialing manual.

### **Policy Development and Strategic Alliances**

- Recommend college policies and procedures affecting areas of responsibility.
- Promote strategic alliances and partnerships between the college and other entities.
- Represent the college at meetings of professional organizations.

### **New Faculty Orientation and Development**

- Organize New Faculty Orientation and development efforts for newly appointed faculty department chairs.
- Assist with instructional research, evaluation, and continuous improvement within areas of responsibility in coordination with other units of the college, with an emphasis on learning assessment.
- Manage institutional grant development efforts within areas of responsibility.

## **Dean Health Science and Human Services**

Great Basin College, 2013-2023

### **Strategic Leadership and Project Management**

- Prioritize department budgets and effectively manage grants.
- Develop and market educational opportunities for current and new programs.
- Strengthen collaboration with constituents for enhanced program effectiveness.

### **Administrative Oversight and Collaboration**

- Oversee the Health Science and Human Services (HSHS) Department, including AAS Nursing, RN-BSN, CNA, Medical Assistant/Phlebotomy/EKG, Radiology, Respiratory Therapy, EMS-Paramedic, Sonography, Social Work, and Human Services programs.
- Create and strengthen collaboration with constituents.
- Manage/supervise staff to include oversight, evaluation, and recruitment.
- Work with private agencies, state, and federal agencies on regulations and funding.

### **Accreditation and Program Development**

- Ensure accreditation oversight for six programs, including preparation of accreditation reports and state board reporting.
- Submit new programs and engage in current program reviews with the Northwest Commission Colleges and University.

### **Financial Management and External Relations**

- Manage staff through effective oversight, evaluation, and recruitment.
- Work with labor unions, private agencies, state, and federal agencies.
- Oversee student fees, lab fees, and differential fees.

### **Affiliation and Partnership Management**

- Manage affiliation agreements and partnerships with outside agencies.

- Lead the Health Science and Human Services advisory groups.

### **Primary Investigator COVID-19 Contact Tracing Grant**

Great Basin College, 2020-Current

#### **Leadership and Coordination**

- Spearhead and lead contact tracing teams for COVID-19 across Elko, Lander, Humboldt, and Eureka counties.

#### **Budget Management**

- Efficiently manage the budget allocated for COVID-19 contact tracing operations, ensuring optimal utilization of resources.

#### **Government Reporting**

- Directly report COVID-19 status for rural counties to the State of Nevada, providing critical information for statewide response efforts.

#### **Task Force Involvement**

- Actively participate in the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Internal COVID-19 Task Force Committee, contributing to strategic decision-making.

#### **Emergency Operations**

- Serve on the Emergency Operation Committee for Elko County, providing insights and expertise for emergency response planning.

#### **Command Staff Committee**

- Serve as integral member of the Command Staff Committee for Elko County, specifically focusing on COVID-19 patients and vaccine rollouts.

### **Curriculum Coordinator**

Great Basin College, 2009-2013

#### **Meeting Facilitation and Leadership**

- Chair meetings, providing effective leadership to ensure collaborative decision-making among faculty members.

#### **Admissions and Oversight**

- Manage and oversee the admission process into the Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) and RN-BSN Programs, ensuring a fair and transparent selection process.

#### **Data Analysis and Decision-Making**

- Conduct a comprehensive review of all program data, utilizing insights for informed decision-making to enhance program effectiveness.

#### **Curriculum Management**

- Lead the planning, revision, and evaluation of the curriculum for ADN and RN-BSN programs, aligning content with evolving industry standards and pedagogical advancements.

#### **Accreditation Compliance**

- Direct the preparation and submission of ACEN 2-year accreditation reports, ensuring compliance with rigorous accreditation standards.

#### **Faculty Assignment Recommendations**

- Provide valuable recommendations for nursing faculty assignments, optimizing the utilization of faculty expertise and strengths.

#### **Resource Allocation and Budget Management**

- Effectively manage resources, including budget allocation, to support curriculum development and ensure fiscal responsibility.

#### **Student Grievance Resolution**

- Address and resolve student grievances promptly, contributing to a positive and supportive learning environment.

### **Department Chair Health Science and Human Services**

Great Basin College, 2009-2013

#### **Staff Development**

- Implement comprehensive staff development programs, fostering continuous learning and professional growth among department members.

#### **Information Dissemination**

- Effectively disseminate crucial information to department chairs, promoting transparency and collaboration across departments.

#### **Budget Oversight**

- Conduct thorough reviews of department budgets, ensuring financial efficiency and alignment with organizational goals.

#### **Adjunct Faculty Evaluations**

- Lead the evaluation process for adjunct faculty, ensuring adherence to teaching standards and contribution toward faculty development.

#### **Workload Allocation**

- Implement a fair and effective workload allocation system, optimizing faculty resources to enhance departmental efficiency.

#### **Curriculum Development and Assessment**

- Spearhead curriculum development initiatives, ensuring alignment with industry standards and educational objectives.
- Conduct rigorous assessment and evaluation processes, continuously improving the quality and relevance of educational programs.

### **Manager Veterans Telehealth Clinic**

Elko, Nevada, 2005-2005

#### **Clinical Development**

- Pioneer the development of the VA Telehealth Clinic, orchestrating its establishment and ensuring its alignment with organizational objectives.

#### **Case Load Management**

- Efficiently manage patient caseloads, optimizing scheduling and resource allocation for streamlined clinic operations.

#### **Staff Organization**

- Organize and supervise clinic staff, fostering a cohesive and collaborative work environment conducive to high-quality patient care.

#### **Collaboration with VA Medical Staff**

- Collaborate closely with VA medical staff, ensuring seamless integration of telehealth services into the broader healthcare framework.

#### **Patient Education**

- Implement comprehensive patient education programs, empowering individuals with

knowledge for proactive healthcare management.

#### **RESEARCH PROJECTS/GRANTS:**

- 1. Federal Appropriations Funding for Nevada Health Science Equipment (Summer 2022)**
  - Secured \$940,000 to enhance health science equipment, promoting state-of-the-art learning experiences.
- 2. Helmsley Charitable Trust Sonography Grant (Spring 2022)**
  - Obtained \$1 million from the Helmsley Charitable Trust to advance excellence in sonography education.
- 3. Office of Science, Innovation and Technology Grant (Spring 2022)**
  - Successfully secured \$167,852.37 to fuel innovative initiatives at the intersection of science and technology.

#### **Previous Achievement:**

- 4. Perkins Competitive Grant (2018)**
  - Awarded \$102,000 for radiology sonography equipment.
- 5. William N Pennington Health Science Building, Winnemucca, Nevada (2017)**
  - Awarded \$5 million for construction of new health science building.
- 6. Pennington Grant for Radiology Equipment and Lab Remodel (2015)**
  - Awarded \$246,000 for new radiology equipment and lab renovations.
- 7. Pennington Grant for AAS Nursing Scholarship (2014-2017)**
  - Awarded multiple grants totaling \$26,000 (2014), \$34,000 (2015), \$34,000 (2016), and \$60,000 (2017) to support nursing scholarships.
- 8. Pennington Grant CAE Fidelis Maternal/Fetal Simulation (2015)**
  - Awarded \$181,537 for the acquisition of two CAE Fidelis Maternal/Fetal Simulators.
- 9. State of Nevada Competitive Grant for Paramedic Program Startup (2014)**
  - Awarded \$200,000 for the initiation of the GBC Paramedic Program.
- 10. Perkins Grant for Paramedic Faculty Support (2014)**
  - Awarded \$146,000 to support two full-time paramedic faculty.
- 11. Trade Adjustment Act Community College Career Training (TAACCCT Grant) (2013)**
  - Awarded \$2.2 million for rural health care education and veteran services.
- 12. Nevada INBRE IDEA Network Biomedical Research Excellence Grant**
  - Awarded \$40,000 for GBC Nursing Department.

#### **PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION:**

- 1. Nevada Emergency Preparedness Association: Preparedness Partner of the Year 2023**
  - Recognized for outstanding service to the community and the state in building a more resilient Nevada.
- 2. Beverly E. Coleman Nevada Health Foundation: Legacy Award 2022**
  - Recognized for outstanding service to the community and the state in building a more resilient Nevada.
- 3. Great Basin College, Winnemucca: Outstanding Alumni 2017**
  - Recognized for significant achievements and contributions as an alumna.
- 4. Nevada State Board of Nursing: Nursing Leader Under 40 2016**

- Acknowledged for leadership in nursing under the age of 40.
- 5. University of Nevada, Las Vegas: Nursing Fellowship, Nursing Education PhD Program 2009/2011**
- Recognition for participation in the Nursing Education PhD program.

**SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

**Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE)**

- Member, Mental Health Task Force
- Member, Internal COVID-19 Advisory Team

**Nevada State Board of Nursing**

- Member, Deans and Directors Committee
- Member, Education Advisory sub committees

**Great Basin College**

- Chair, Admission and Progression Committee for the Health Science and Human Service programs
- Member, Bylaws Committee
- Member, Personnel Committee
- Chair, Budget and Facilities Committee
- Member, search committees for Institutional Research Director, Nursing Department, Education Department, and Dean of Arts and Sciences

**MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:**

**Current Positions:**

- Vice Chair, Advisory Council of the State Program for Wellness and Prevention of Chronic Disease
  - NSHE Member, Appointed by the Nevada State Legislature
- Member, Northeastern Nevada Regional Hospital Board of Directors
- Member, Nevada Alliance for Nursing Excellence (NANE)
- Chair, Vitality Unlimited Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Treatment Centers Across Nevada
- Member, National League for Nursing

**Previous Positions:**

- Previous Member, National Association of School Nurses (NASN)
- Previous Member, Nevada State Board of Nursing Education Advisory Committee
- Previous Member, Nevada State Board of Nursing Deans and Directors Group

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

- **ACLS Course Facilitator:** Offer free ACLS courses to rural nurses.
- **Community and School College Initiatives:** Create opportunities for high-risk students to access college education.
- **Career Fair Participation:** Participate in career fairs for high school students interested in healthcare-related fields.
- **Medical Outreach Expo (MORE) Involvement:** Contribute to MORE, providing two days of free medical care for low-income Nevada residents.

- **Elko County Ambulance Service Volunteer**
- **Safety Olympiad Participant:** Engage in the Safety Olympiad held in Elko, Nevada.
- **American Cancer Society Walk for Cancer Participant**
- **On-site Nurse for Local 4-H Summer Camps**

#### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

##### **Manager Veterans Affairs Telemedicine Clinic**

Collaboration Project with Salt Lake City, Utah, Veterans Hospital, 2006-2007

- Lead the management of the Veterans Affairs Telemedicine Clinic in collaboration with Salt Lake City, Utah, Veterans Hospital.

##### **Certified School Nurse**

Elko County School District, Elko, Nevada, 2005-2006

- Provided certified nursing services within the Elko County School District.

##### **Registered Nurse**

MSP/ICU/OB, Northeaster Nevada Regional Hospital, Elko Nevada, 2001-2005

- Deliver nursing care in various units including Medical-Surgical/Pediatrics, Intensive Care Unit, and Obstetrics.

##### **American MedFlight**

Air Ambulance, Elko, Nevada, 2001-2002

- Contribute to air ambulance services provided by American MedFlight.

#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

##### **Great Basin College**

Tenured Professor of Nursing, Full-Time Faculty, 2006-2013

##### **Walden University**

Part-Time Nursing Faculty Leadership and Management Program, 2013-Current

##### **Capella University**

Part-Time Nursing Faculty, 2013-Current

#### **PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS:**

Zangaro, G. A., Dulko, D., Sullivan, D., Weatherspoon, D., White, K. M., Hall, V. P., Squellati, R., **Donnelli, A.**, James, J., & Wilson, D. R. (2022). Systematic Review of Burnout in US Nurses. Burnout in Nursing: Causes, Management, and Future Directions. *Nursing Clinics of North America*, 57(1), 1–20. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cnur.2021.11.001>

**Donnelli, A** (2017) Building a Rural Nursing Workforce in Nevada. Nevada State Board of Nursing News June edition

**Donnelli, A.** (2011). Faculty's perceptions of students' abilities to utilize self-regulated learning strategies to improve critical and reflective thinking in making clinical decisions: A methodological study. PhD dissertation, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, United States. ProQuest Dissertation & Theses Full Text. (Publication No. 3475419)

#### **PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS:**

2022

- **Northern Nevada Nursing Summit**

2021

- **Nevada System of Higher Education Fall Student Leadership Summit**

2018

- **National League for Nursing Education Summit**
- **ACEN Self-Study Forum Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing**
- **Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing**

2017

- **The Association of Community College Trustees**
  - Presentation: "Creating a Rural Nursing Workforce Using Synchronized Distance Education."
- **NCLEX Program Reports Professional Development Seminars**
  - Topics: Test Planning and Content Dimensions to Understand the Challenges and Opportunities Identified by NCLEX Program Reports
  - Presentation: "Successful Program Evaluation Using the NCLEX program Reports."
- **Nurse Tim Nuts and Bolts for Nurse Educators**
  - Presentation: "The Evidence Base of Learning Success."

2016

- **ATI National Nurse Educator Summit**
  - Presentation: "Creating a Rural Nursing Workforce Using Synchronized Distance Education."

2015

- **Southern Nevada Clinical Faculty Workshop**
  - Presentation: "Innovative Clinical Teaching Strategies."
- **Great Basin College Spring In-Service**
  - Presentation: "Jolt into Spring: Operating an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Using a Hands-On Approach."

2012

- **Great Basin College Nursing Department Presentation**
  - Presentation: "Integrating Concepts-Based Curriculum Approaches for ADN Students."

2009

- **Western Institute of Nursing 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Communicating Nursing Research Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah**
  - Poster Presentation: "Networks in Nursing Science: Creating our Future."

**PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS:**

- **Peer Reviewer and Contributor (Pearson)**
  - Potter's *Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing*
- **Peer Reviewer and Contributor (Pearson)**
  - Publication: *North Carolina Concept-Based Learning*
  - Editorial Board: "Nursing - A Concept-Based Approach to Learning"