

BOARD OF REGENTS
BRIEFING PAPER
Handbook Revision, Entrepreneurial Leave

BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

At its November 29, 2012, roundtable the WRED Committee received input from the Presidents and research community at UNLV, UNR, and DRI, as well as state and community leaders on actions the Board may consider to promote research and entrepreneurial activity that supports economic development. This discussion continued at the WRED Committee meeting on February 28, 2013, and issues raised included the need for an entrepreneurial leave option for university faculty at UNR and UNLV. DRI currently has a policy authorizing entrepreneurial leave under the DRI Bylaws.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the WRED Committee asked staff to draft a policy for the Committee's consideration at its next meeting that would authorize UNLV, UNR, and DRI to establish entrepreneurial leave.

SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

Amend Title 4, Chapter 3 to add a new section authorizing the universities and DRI to establish policies in consultation with institutional legal counsel that govern entrepreneurial leave for faculty engaged in entrepreneurial activity that advances research; supports the state's economic development plan, technology transfer, commercialization, or the Knowledge Fund established pursuant to *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) 231.1592; or similar activities.

Provide that the policies must require approval of such leave by the President and will not apply to the sabbatical leave authorized under NRS 284.345.

IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

This proposal is brought forward at the request of the WRED Committee.

BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- Authorizing entrepreneurial leave will provide the institutions with additional incentives to help attract and retain high quality faculty interested in research, entrepreneurial, economic development and outreach activities.
- Research activities that are consistent with the goals of NSHE and the institutions require considerable time and energy even before a project is underway. The option of using entrepreneurial leave is important for faculty to have the necessary time to devote to these projects, which may include work with private industry and state and federal funding entities, and participation in technology commercialization activities.

POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

None have been presented at this time.

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

None.

COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:

- Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title #_____ Chapter #_____ Section #_____
- Amends Current Board Policy: *Title 4, Chapter 3, new Section 16*
- Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter #_____ Section #_____
- Other: _____
- Fiscal Impact: Yes _____ No _____
Explain: _____

POLICY PROPOSAL
TITLE 4, CHAPTER 3, new SECTION 16
Professional Staff – Entrepreneurial Leave

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

Section 16. Entrepreneurial Leave – Universities and DRI

The universities and Desert Research Institute may establish policies in consultation with institutional legal counsel that govern entrepreneurial leave for faculty engaged in entrepreneurial activity that advances research; supports the state’s economic development plan, technology transfer, commercialization, or the Knowledge Fund established pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes 231.1592; or similar activities. The policies shall provide for approval of such leave by the President and will not apply to the sabbatical leave authorized under Nevada Revised Statutes 284.345.

RENUMBER SECTIONS 16 THROUGH 47 AS SECTIONS 17 THROUGH 48.