

BOARD OF REGENTS  
BRIEFING PAPER

Agenda Item Title: HATE CRIMES POLICY

**BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:**

The Cultural Diversity and Security Committee received a report from Special Counsel Brooke Nielse at its meeting on April 3, 2008, regarding state and federal laws on hate crimes, and regarding existing board policy. The Committee requested counsel to draft a proposed policy on hate crimes.

**SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:**

It is recommended that the attached Hates Crimes Policy be considered for approval by the Committee. The proposed policy amends the Board of Regents Handbook, Title 4, Chapter 1, to add a new Section 30 requiring all institutions to adopt specific policies and procedures regarding hate crimes. The policies and procedures must describe the manner in which the institution and/or its police services will respond to and investigate any report of a hate crime.

**IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):**

The Committee, at its April 3, 2008 meeting, requested the drafting of a proposed hate crimes policy.

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

- The Board of Regents does not have a hate crimes policy.
- Adopting the proposed policy will require each institution to consider how to handle hate crimes that may be committed on campus.
- All institutions will adopt policies and procedures regarding the response to and investigation of hate crimes.

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

- Hate crimes have been extremely rare on NSHE campuses and there is no need for a new policy to address this issue.

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

- Do not adopt a specific policy regarding hate crimes.

**COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:**

- Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title #\_\_\_\_ Chapter #\_\_\_\_ Section #\_\_\_\_
- Amends Current Board Policy: Title # 4 Chapter # 1 Section # new section 30
- Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter #\_\_\_\_ Section #\_\_\_\_
- Fiscal Impact: Yes\_\_\_\_ No X  
Explain:\_\_\_\_\_

**POLICY PROPOSAL**  
**TITLE 4, CHAPTER 1, NEW SECTION 30**  
Hate Crimes Policy

Additions appear in ***boldface italics***; deletions are ~~stricken~~ and bracketed]  
***boldface italics*** as amended during the Board meeting (6/08)

***30. Hate Crimes Policy***

***A hate crime is defined in Nevada law as a crime listed under NRS 193.1675 or NRS 207.185 against another person which is motivated by virtue of the victim's actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, physical or mental disability or sexual orientation. Hate crimes are particularly repugnant to the mission of the Nevada System of Education (NSHE) and detrimental to the responsibility of NSHE to provide a safe environment for education, research and service for the NSHE community. In order to insure that all institutions of the Nevada System of Higher Education are prepared to respond to hate crimes that may be committed on its campuses, each institution must adopt a policy and procedure regarding hate crimes. The policy and procedure must include manner by which the institution or its police services will **prevent**, respond to and investigate hate crimes.***