

Minutes are intended to note: (a) the date, time, and place of the meeting; (b) those members of the public body who were present and those who were absent; and (c) the substance of all matters proposed, discussed and/or action was taken on. Minutes are not intended to be a verbatim report of a meeting. An audio recording of the meeting is available for inspection by any member of the public interested in a verbatim report of the meeting. These minutes are not final until approved at a future meeting.

NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION TASK FORCE ON SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

NSHE System Administration Office Building
4300 South Maryland Parkway
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

and

NSHE System Administration Office Building
2601 Enterprise Road
Reno, Nevada 89512

Thursday, January 26, 2023

Members Present: Dr. Kavita Batra (Zoom)
Chancellor Dale Erquiaga (Reno)
Dr. Tabor Griswold (Zoom)
Dr. Elizabeth Gunn (Las Vegas)
Mr. James Martines (Las Vegas)
Dr. Alison Netski (Zoom)
Ms. Michelle Sposito (Zoom)
Dr. Angela Moore (Reno)
Ms. Erin Frock (Zoom)

Others Present: Ms. Lynda King, Associate General Counsel, NSHE
Ms. Sofia Long, Senior Deputy Attorney General

Chair Dr. Elizabeth Gunn called the Sexual Misconduct Task Force meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. with a quorum present. She reminded the audience that the public may access the meeting materials on the NSHE website: www.nshe.nevada.edu. Those desiring to follow the Committee's work can subscribe to the meeting notices on the same website.

1. Information Only Public Comment

Las Vegas: None.

Reno: None.

Electronic Submissions: None

2. Information Only - Chair Report – Chair Gunn thanked the members serving on the Sexual Misconduct Task Force (“Task Force”) and its important initiative. She also thanked colleagues for serving on the Task Force in both Nevada NSHE offices throughout the calendar year to ensure that the work of the Task Force moves forward and for their continued commitment and work on infrastructure and planning. She acknowledged and welcomed Eliza Hallman, Assistant to the Chancellor, for her work in getting the session underway. Dr. Gunn recognized the new members of the committee and the nomination (pending) for the next Board of Regents meeting. She also mentioned that the Task Force continues to collaborate with UNR’s Nevada Center for Surveys, Evaluators, and Statistics to discuss the possible scope of work, presentation, and possible costs of a survey instrument.

In October 2022, the Task Force led a discussion on the development of metrics, methodology, and implementation that may be involved in an NSHE system-wide survey regarding sexual misconduct which includes dating violence, domestic violence, gender-based violence, gender-based harassment, violence based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and stalking or indecent exposure. As Chair of the Task Force, Dr. Gunn plans to move forward with this project and wants it to be added to the next agenda meeting for recommendation to the Board of Regents (“BOR”) which would be considered at the BOR’s next quarterly meeting for potential funding.

If funding becomes available, the Chair would like to move forward with the survey instruments provided by UNR for distribution within a reasonable timeline, potentially implementing the survey by Fall 2023. The survey results would be available by early spring 2024, followed by a presentation to the BOR.

She appreciated the support of Acting Chancellor Erquiaga on this initiative. She reminded that SB347, section 1251, mandates and guides the Task Force’s work of acting on and reviewing the results of a climate survey on sexual misconduct and holding a public meeting with recommendations to the BOR on how to address sexual misconduct at its institutions.

The Chair thanked the students of UNR for reaching out to her with a notification from Andrew Thompson that UNR’s Student Association supported a resolution from the Nevada Cares Advocacy Center that aligns with the work of the Task Force.

3. Approved Minutes – The Task Force considered approval of the minutes from the October 12, 2022, meeting.

Chair Gunn moved approval of the October 12, 2022, minutes. Chief General Counsel James Martines seconded. Motion carried.

4. Information Only - Introduction of New Members – Dr. Angela Moore and Ms. Erin Frock

Dr. Angela Moore briefly introduced herself. She is from the University of Nevada Reno (UNR) and currently works as the Program Development Specialist for University-wide Diversity and Inclusion. She used to be a Teaching Assistant Professor in the Department of English. Her background is in better composition and standard intervention approaches to reducing sexual violence and advocating safe zones for LGBTQIA2+ training. Ms. Erin Frock introduced herself as the Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC) lead counselor who has been with the institution since 2007. She served in various roles performing outreach, mental health wellness, and all the things one does in a counseling center. Both new members expressed their delight in being members of the Task Force.

5. Approved Future Meeting Dates – The Task Force discussed the scheduling of future meetings. Chief General Counsel James Martines moved approval to authorize the Chair and Vice Chair to use the Doodle Poll to set future meeting dates. Chair Gunn seconded. Motion carried.

6. Approved Election of Officers – Chair Gunn provided background with respect to Task Force elections. In accordance with NRS 396.141 (3), the Task Force shall conduct an election of a Chair who will serve from the date of election until January 31, 2023. During the Task Force's first meeting in February of 2022, the Committee held an election where a Chair and Vice Chair were elected. Since then, Nevada System of Higher Education has had a change in administration. Dr. Gunn (then Vice Chair) took over the responsibilities of Chair and the Vice Chair position became vacant. NRS 396.141 (3) requires an election to occur at the first meeting of every odd year. In the October 12, 2022, meeting, Dr. Tabor Griswold was elected Vice Chair. Her tenure would be for a very short term (until January 31, 2023), at which time the elected Vice Chair can decide if she will seek to be reelected, seek to be Chair, or not run at all.

Chief General Counsel James Martines nominated Dr. Elizabeth Gunn for Chair. There were no other nominations. All Task Force Members voted for Dr. Gunn. Dr. Gunn was elected Chair.

Vice Chair: Chair Gunn nominated Dr. Griswold. There were no other nominations. All Task Force members voted for Dr. Griswold. Dr. Griswold was elected as Vice Chair.

7. Information Only - New Business. Dean Gunn reminded everyone that to hear the input on agenda items for future meetings and to comply with the Nevada Open Meeting Law, the Task Force needs to ensure that comments and discussions are limited to the description and clarification of the subject matter of the item which may include the reasons for the requests and no discussions may occur on new business.

Acting Chancellor Erquiaga stated that in the interest of timelines that we operate under, the survey instrument mentioned by Dr. Gunn needs to be approved by the BOR as required by the statute. He further expressed that the BOR would need to receive the survey instrument at its June meeting and then could include the funding in the fiscal year 23 budget. He requested that the survey instrument be added to the BOR's April or May agenda, it would be helpful for him to get it before the BOR in June.

Dr. Gunn thanked Acting Chancellor Erquiaga and commented that moving the survey instrument forward is the Task Force's primary directive that would certainly be a recurring point of discussion.

8. Information Only-Public Comment –

Las Vegas: None.

Reno: None.

Electronic Submissions: None

Dr. Gunn thanked the NSHE offices again for making the meeting space and infrastructure possible. She also thanked the members for their continued commitment and willingness to serve on this important Task Force.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 a.m.

Prepared by: Eliza S. Hallman
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Submitted for approval by: Lynda P. King, Esq.
Associate General Counsel