

**BOARD OF REGENTS and its  
ACADEMIC, RESEARCH AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

Members Present:

Dr. Jason Geddes, Chair  
Dr. Patrick R. Carter, Vice Chair  
Mr. Joseph C. Arrascada  
Mr. Patrick J. Boylan  
Mrs. Cathy McAdoo  
Ms. Laura E. Perkins

Other Regents Present:

Dr. Mark W. Doubrava, Board Chair  
Mrs. Carol Del Carlo, Board Vice Chair  
Mr. Byron Brooks  
Ms. Amy J. Carvalho  
Mr. John T. Moran  
Dr. Lois Tarkanian

Others Present:

Dr. Melody Rose, Chancellor  
Ms. Keri D. Nikolajewski, Interim Chief of Staff to the Board  
Ms. Crystal Abba, Vice Chancellor, Academic & Student Affairs  
and Community Colleges  
Mr. Caleb Cage, Vice Chancellor, Workforce Development and  
Chief Innovation Officer  
Mr. Andrew Clinger, Chief Financial Officer  
Mr. Joe Reynolds, Chief General Counsel  
Ms. Marcie Jackson, Director, System Sponsored Programs and  
EPSCoR Office  
Ms. Tina Russom, Deputy General Counsel  
Mr. Rhett Vertrees, Assistant Chief Financial Officer  
Dr. Federico Zaragoza, CSN President  
Dr. Kumud Acharya, DRI President  
Ms. Joyce M. Helens, GBC President  
Mr. Bart J. Patterson, NSC President  
Dr. Karin M. Hilgersom, TMCC President  
Dr. Keith E. Whitfield, UNLV President  
Mr. Brian Sandoval, UNR President  
Dr. Vincent R. Solis, WNC President

Faculty senate chairs in attendance were: Dr. Maria Schellhase, CSN; Dr. Eric Wilcox, DRI; Mr. Brian Zeiszler, GBC; Dr. Laura Naumann, NSC; Mr. Glenn Heath, System Administration; Ms. YeVonne Allen, TMCC; Ms. Shannon Sumpter, UNLV; Dr. Amy Pason, UNR; and Mr. Jim Strange, WNC. Student body presidents in attendance were: Mr. Zachary Johnigan, CSN; Ms. Katie Dempsey, GBC; Ms. Caren Yap, UNLV-CSUN; Ms. Nicole Thomas, UNLV-GPSA; Mr. Austin Brown, UNR-ASUN; and Mr. Matthew Hawn, UNR-GSA.

Chair Jason Geddes called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. with all members present except for Regent Boylan.

1. Information Only-Public Comment – None.
2. Approved-Consent Items – The Committee recommended approval of the consent items with the exception of Item 2d which was withdrawn.





5. Information Only-FAFSA Simplification: Implications for Student Financial Aid  
– (continued)

In response to a follow-up question regarding COA, Ms. Davis answered that currently there is very little guidance from the Department of Education regarding Cost of Attendance; however, within the financial aid community a lot of best practices are available which range from surveying students to reviewing the market. Also, each campus may have a slightly different approach and there is also collaboration among some of the NSHE institutions; however, going forward there will be more guidance available for COA.

Vice Chair Carter thanked Ms. Davis for the presentation and the work that went into it.

6. Approved-Handbook Revision, Requirements for Admission to the Universities –  
The Committee recommended approval of a revision to Board policy to remove

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7. Approved-Handbook Revision, In-State Tuition for Certain Veterans – (continued)

Vice Chancellor Abba provided a brief overview of the policy proposal.

Regent Boylan moved approval of the policy proposal. Regent Arrascada seconded.  
Motion carried.

8. Approved-Handbook Revision, Eliminating the Excess Credit Fee – The  
Committee recommended approval of a revision to Board policy File 04904389 1



11. Approved-Handbook Revision, Tuition and Fee Waiver Native Americans (AB262) (Agenda Item 12) – (continued)

have given the NSHE a tremendous amount with the land that all of its institutions are on and the System has a service to give back to them. Chair Geddes said the fiscal note is concerning; however, he believes it is something that can be worked on.

Regent Arrascada asked regarding agenda items 10, 11 and 12, what is the cumulative dollar amount that will be absorbed by the NSHE. Vice Chancellor Abba said the fiscal impact notes for each item are very conservative estimates based on the information provided. There is an annual fee waiver report presented to the Board and the Regents will be rece



11. Approved-Handbook Revision, Tuition and Fee Waiver Native Americans (AB262) (Agenda Item 12) – (continued)

located in or historically tied to the state, those Native Americans are deemed residents for tuition purposes. It is similar for Oregon which also includes some bordering tribes. Vice Chancellor Abba added that she is not aware of a state that is waiving resident tuition to the extent of AB262. Board Vice Chair Del Carlo expressed her support of AB262 although she was concerned about the fiscal impact.

Motion carried.

12. Approved-Handbook Revision, Admission General Policy (SB327) (Agenda Item 13) – The 2021 Session of the Nevada State Legislature passed Senate Bill 327, prohibiting certain types of discrimination in the admission of students by defining “race” to include ancestry, color, ethnic group identification, ethnic background and traits historically associated with race, including, without limitation, hair texture and protective hairstyles. The Committee recommended approval of the revisions to Board policy (*Title 4, Chapter 16, Sections 5, 18 and 26*) intended to comply with the amendatory provisions of Senate Bill 327 as amended at the meeting (*Ref. ARSA-13 on file in the Board Office*).

Vice Chancellor Abba provided a brief overview of the proposal and read the amendments into the record:

Section 5. University Admission – General Policy

1. In the admission of students, universities shall not discriminate on the basis of a person’s age, disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, race, **color**, religion, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. ***As used in this section:***
  - a. “Race” includes ~~ancestry, color, ethnic group identification, ethnic background and~~ traits ~~historically~~ associated with race, including without limitation, hair texture and protective hairstyles.
  - b. “Protective hairstyle” includes, without limitation, hairstyles such as natural hairstyles, afros, bantu knots, curls, braids, locks and twists.

Section 18. Community College Admission – General Policy

1. In the admission of students, universities shall not discriminate on the basis of a person’s age, disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, race, **color**, religion, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. ***As used in this section:***

12. Approved-Handbook Revision, Admission General Policy (SB327) (Agenda Item 13) – (continued)

c. “Race” includes ~~[ancestry, color, ethnic group identification, ethnic background and]~~ traits ~~[historically]~~ associated with race, including without



15. Information Only-New Business – (continued)

Chair Geddes requested updates on the foster youth fee waiver and corequisite instruction.

16. Information Only-Public Comment – None.

The meeting adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

Prepared by: Winter M.N. Lipson  
Special Assistant and Coordinator to the Board of Regents

Submitted for approval by: Keri D. Nikolajewski  
Interim Chief of Staff to the Board of Regents

**Approved by the Board of Regents at its September 9-10, 2021, meeting.**