

Minutes approved by the Board of Regents at the November 30-December 1, 2023, meeting.

**BOARD OF REGENTS and its
INCLUSION, DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND ACCESS COMMITTEE
NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

System Administration, Las Vegas
4300 South Maryland Parkway, Board Room
Wednesday, August 16, 2023

Video Conference Connection from the Meeting Site to:
System Administration, Reno
2600 Enterprise Road, Conference Room
and
Great Basin College, Elko
1500 College Parkway, Berg Hall Conference Room

Members Present: Ms. Laura E. Perkins, Chair
Mr. Donald Sylvantee McMichael Sr., Vice Chair
Mr. Joseph C. Arrascada
Dr. Michelee Cruz-Crawford
Ms. Stephanie Goodman
Dr. Lois Tarkanian

Other Regents Present: Mr. Patrick J. Boylan
Mrs. Amy J. Carvalho
Mrs. Carol Del Carlo

Others Present: Ms. Patricia Charlton, Officer in Charge
Ms. Keri D. Nikolajewski, Chief of Staff to the Board
Ms. Carrie L. Parker, Deputy General Counsel
Mr. Alejandro Rodriguez, Director of Government Relations
Mr. Tillery Williams, Director of Community Engagement, Equity
and Inclusion
Ms. Joyce M. Helens, GBC President
Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, NSC President
Dr. Karin M. Hilgersom, TMCC President
Dr. J. Kyle Dalpe, WNC President

Faculty senate chairs in attendance were: Mr. Patrick Villa, CSN; Dr. Molly Appel, NSC; Mr. Ed Boog, System Administration; and Dr. Bill Robinson, UNLV. NSHE Classified Council Chair Louellen Monte was also in attendance.

Chair Laura E. Perkins called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. with all members present. Vice Chair McMichael led the Pledge of Allegiance and Chair Perkins provided the Land Acknowledgement.

5. Information Only-CSN Back on Track Program Implementation (Agenda Item 7) –
(continued)

as funding; how the Board can assist with supporting the program; capacity building – support for the program at the secondary sites; and establishing alignment between the Division of Workforce and Economic Development (DWED) programs and secondary credit.

Chair Perkins requested an update be presented to the Committee in 6-8 months.

Agenda items 5 and 6 were combined (

6. Action Taken-Recruitment and Hiring of Professional Positions (Agenda Item 5) and
7. Action Taken-NSHE Equity in Hiring and Retention, Blind Hiring Implementation (Agenda Item 6) – (continued)

6. Action Taken-Recruitment and Hiring of Professional Positions (Agenda Item 5) and
7. Action Taken-NSHE Equity in Hiring and Retention, Blind Hiring Implementation (Agenda Item 6) – (continued)

Ms. Keri D. Nikolajewski, Chief of Staff to the Board, advised the appropriate motion would be to postpone items 5 and 6 to the next Committee meeting.

Regent Goodman amended her motion by moving approval of postponing items 5 and 6. Regent Cruz-Crawford seconded. Motion carried.

8. Information Only-WNC Higher Education in Prison Program – Cathy Morin, Adjunct Professor, Western Nevada College (WNC) provided a presentation on the activities and initiatives of WNC’s Higher Education in Prison Program (HEPP) which is designed to provide access to higher education and workforce education for the under-served population of incarcerated men at the Northern Nevada Correctional Center (NNCC) and Stewart Conservation Camp. HEPP’s vision follows the college’s vision: “To be an integral and innovative educational partner fostering equity and a life of learning in an inclusive environment for the evolving, diverse communities it serves.” The HEPP program strives to be student-centered, inquiry-driven, and data-informed, and to provide effective educational pathways for students. *(Ref. IDEA-8 on file in the Board office)*

Professor Morin provided a report which included: the context of the program; program data: 95 percent of the incarcerated population will return to their communities and 73 percent will re-offend in the state of Nevada and the level of degree vs. the recidivism rate; higher education in prison opportunities: 35 percent of state prisons provide college-level courses and those programs only serve 6 percent of incarcerated individuals nationwide, and 760,000 incarcerated men and women will be eligible for Pell Grants according to the Department of Education; program challenges include funding, facilities, stigma and stereotypes, staffing, technology and consistency; and letters of support from students enrolled in the WNC Higher Education in Prison Program.

Chair Perkins, Vice Chair McMichael, Regent Goodman and Professor Morin addressed and discussed the following topics: the Prison Program being incentivized, and rehabilitative and eligible students must have a high school diploma and no discipline incidents for at least a year; program enrollment may help with reduced sentences; a potential partnership between the WNC Higher Education in Prison Program and Hope for Prisoners; and availability of the program for women in Nevada corrections facilities

Dr. J. Kyle Dalpe, WNC President, thanked Professor Morin and Deb Conrad, Prison Education and Apprenticeship Program Director, for their hard work and dedication. He also thanked all Regents who have attended the prison program commencements.

Regent Arrascada requested a follow-up presentation at a future meeting of the Academic, Research and Student Affairs Committee meeting and would like that report to include more statistics pertaining to Nevada.

