

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

Joe Crowley Student Union, Ballroom A  
University of Nevada, Reno  
87 West Stadium Way, Reno  
Thursday, June 16, 2011

Members Present: Mr. William G. Cobb, Chair  
Dr. Andrea Anderson, Vice Chair  
Mr. Robert Blakely  
Mr. Cedric Crear  
Mr. Kevin J. Page

Other Regents Present: Dr. Jason Geddes

Others Present: Dr. Jane Nichols, Vice Chancellor, Academic & Student Affairs  
Mr. Scott Wasserman, CEO & Special Counsel to the Board  
Ms. Crystal Abba, Associate Vice Chancellor, Acad. & Student Affairs  
Dr. Stephen G. Wells, President, DRI  
Dr. Neal J. Smatresk, President, UNLV  
Dr. Marc Johnson, President, UNR  
Dr. Darren Divine, CSN  
Dr. John Warwick, DRI  
Ms. Tawny Crum, GBC  
Ms. Lynn Mahlberg, GBC  
Dr. Erika Beck, NSC  
Mr. Lee Young, NSC  
Ms. Roberta Bickford, TMCC  
Ms. Nanci Fowler, TMCC  
Mr. Ron Marston, TMCC  
Mr. Ted Plaggemeyer, TMCC  
Dr. John Tuthill, TMCC  
Ms. Sharon Wurm, TMCC  
Dr. Michael Bowers, UNLV  
Ms. Sally Caspers, UNLV  
Ms. Gail Reese, UNLV  
Ms. Margaret Walsh, UNLV  
Ms. Roma Patel, UNLV-CSUN  
Dr. Dean Burkin, UNR  
Dr. Melissa Burnham, UNR  
Ms. Terina Caserto, UNR  
Dr. Christine Cheney, UNR  
Dr. Carol Condit, UNR  
Dr. Shannon Ellis, UNR  
Dr. Heather Hardy, UNR

Others Present: *(continued)* Dr. Ryan Heck, UNR  
Dr. Ron Pardini, UNR  
Ms. Nicole Davenport, WNC  
Dr. Carol Lange, WNC  
Mr. Dan Neverett, WNC  
Ms. Kathryn Ross, WNC  
Mr. Ed Pearce, KOLO-TV  
Ms. Sue Voyles, The Reno Gazette-Journal

Faculty senate chairs in attendance were Ms. Sarah Negrete, GBC; Dr. Gregory Brown, UNLV; and Mr. Jeffrey Downs, WNC. Also in attendance was student body president Ms. Sarah Saenz, UNLV.

Chair William G. Cobb called the meeting to order at 11:50 a.m. with all members present.

1. Information Only-Report on UNR Tech Transfer of Pharmacology Research (Agenda Item #2) – Dr. Dean Burkin, Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacology, UNR, presented highlights of his research.

Dr. Burkin gave a PowerPoint presentation on his research aimed at identifying new therapies for children with muscular dystrophy and the resulting patent licensing agreement to develop a therapy for muscular dystrophy with Prothelia, a Boston-based biotech company (*Ref. ARSA-2 on file in the Board office*).

Chair Cobb inquired about the benefits of having the new Center for Molecular Medicine at UNR. Dr. Burkin indicated that new equipment available in the Center for Molecular Medicine has reduced the time it takes to conduct a drug screening from eight months to three weeks. It has sped up the discovery process. Dr. Burkin stated that there is a lot of interest from investigators to use the system. The unique compounds that are identified can be patented and licensed to companies.

Dr. Burkin explained that Prothelia is a biopharmaceutical company focused on developing therapies for muscular dystrophy. They were interested in his research from the very beginning. Laminin-111 was their first compound, and they have gone on to license other compounds, as well. Dr. Burkin indicated that his lab provides many of the compounds to Prothelia, and they have received funding through the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Ryan Heck, Director, Technology Transfer Office, UNR, stated that he worked with Dr. Burkin to write the patent application for this particular technology. Patent protection is critical to the commercial viability of the treatment. Dr. Heck indicated that it is important to protect these inventions as they are developed. He noted that his office supports both UNR and DRI.

1. Information Only-Report on UNR Tech Transfer of Pharmacology Research (Agenda Item #2) – (continued)

Regent Blakely inquired about the possibility of working with UNLV. Dr. Heck indicated that it is possible his office could represent UNLV; however, the office is minimally staffed and already stretched thin supporting UNR and DRI. Additional resources would be required, including having a person on campus at UNLV to work with their faculty.

Chair Cobb noted that UNLV has its own technology transfer office. Dr. Neal J. Smatresk, President, UNLV, added that the office has recently increased its efforts.

2. Approved-Minutes (Agenda Item #1) – The Committee recommended approval of the minutes from the March 10, 2011, meeting (Ref. ARSA-1 on file in the Board office).

Regent Crear moved approval of the minutes from the March 10, 2011, meeting. Regent Page seconded. Motion carried.

3. Information Only-Report on NSHE Veteran Population (Agenda Item #9) – NSHE Veterans Services personnel presented information about NSHE's veteran population.

Ms. Terina Caserto, Veteran Services Coordinator, UNR, Ms. Sally Caspers, Rebel VETS Program, UNLV, Ms. Gail Reese, Financial Aid and Scholarships, UNLV, Ms. Tawny Crum, Student Financial Services and Veterans Affairs, GBC, Ms. Nanci Fowler, Veterans Upward Bound, TMCC, and Ms. Roberta Bickford, Financial Aid, TMCC, gave a collaborative PowerPoint presentation on NSHE veterans' services (Ref. ARSA-9 on file in the Board office). The presentation included information on challenges for returning veterans, the number of veterans served by the NSHE, GI Bill programs, VA certification work flow, compliance issues, post-9/11 update and support/outreach programs at UNLV, UNR, CSN, GBC and TMCC.

Regent Crear asked if each institution has different policies with regard to veterans and if there is anything the Board can do to make serving this special population easier. Ms. Caspers indicated that there are three major issues: 1) the cost to attend and how much is outside of what the GI Bill covers; 2) students often arrive with credits from different institutions and articulation can vary, although there is a national standard for articulation of military credits that the NSHE could be using; and 3) the responsiveness of the campus community when the students are there. She indicated that each campus pursues it a little differently; however, as they worked on the presentation, institutional representatives agreed that there is a need for some centralization.

3. Information Only-Report on NSHE Veteran Population (Agenda Item #9) – (continued)

Ms. Fowler introduced the service members that were in attendance representing the U.S. Marines, U.S. Navy and U.S. Army.

Regent Crear asked that the veterans' services personnel be invited back to discuss specific ways the Board can help improve operations. Ms. Caserto indicated that they would appreciate the opportunity to come back and discuss how the Board can help after they attend the Veterans Affairs training conference in July.

Chair Cobb expressed the Committee's gratitude for the presentation.

4. Approved-UNR, Academic Program Elimination, Ed.S. in Educational Leadership (Agenda Item #3) – The Committee recommended approval of UNR's request to eliminate the Ed.S. in Educational Leadership (Ref. ARSA-3 on file in the Board office). The curricular review process undertaken by UNR in response to budget reductions resulted in a recommendation to eliminate the Ed.S. in Educational Leadership in addition to other degree programs and this degree was listed in the attachment for the agenda item. The degrees that were eliminated as a result of the curricular review were presented and approved by the Board at its June 2010 meeting with the exception of the Ed.S. in Educational Leadership which was inadvertently omitted from the agenda list for final Board approval.

Regent Page moved approval of eliminating the Ed.S. in Educational Leadership at UNR. Regent Crear seconded. Motion carried.

5. Approved-UNR, Academic Program Change, BSEd in Integrated Elementary Teaching (Agenda Item #4) – The Committee recommended approval of UNR's request to consolidate four existing degrees: 1) BSEd in Integrated Special Education/Elementary Education; 2) BSEd in Elementary Education; 3) BS in Early Childhood Education; and 4) BSEd in Special Education into one degree, the BSEd in Integrated Elementary Teaching (Ref. ARSA-4 on file in the Board office). All graduates from the Integrated Elementary Teaching program will be prepared as elementary teachers with at least one additional specific area of specialization in Special Education, English as a Second Language or Early Childhood Education that will result in Nevada teacher licensure in elementary education plus licensure or endorsement in the specialization area.

Dr. Marc Johnson, President, UNR, reported that the College of Education had to be reorganized. Under the leadership of Dean Christine Cheney, the College of Education has been extremely creative in responding to resource reductions while maintaining high quality programs.

5. Approved-UNR, Academic Program Change, BSEd in Integrated Elementary Teaching (Agenda Item #4) – (continued)

Dr. Cheney indicated that Elementary Education students will receive their basic Elementary Education license plus they will choose one of three options: 1) Early Childhood Education; 2) Special Education; or 3) English as a Second Language; and they will get an additional endorsement or license in one of those areas. In addition, the College of Education has increased its requirements for math, social studies, science and English – and all of that was done within 120 credits. Dr. Cheney stated that the proposal is a result of incredible compromise and collaboration among faculty and she is very pleased with it.

Regent Page asked whether the College of Education would have considered doing something similar to this in the absence of a budget crisis. Dr. Cheney indicated that the creativity was always there within the College; however, the budget cuts were a stimulus for the reorganization. Regent Page complimented Dr. Cheney on a job well done.

Regent Crear noted that the proposal shows that expeditiousness is possible in higher education.

Regent Blakely moved approval of the consolidation of the BSEd in Integrated Special Education/Elementary Education, the BSEd in Elementary Education, the BS in Early Childhood Education and the BSEd in Special Education into one degree – the BSEd in Integrated Elementary Teaching at UNR. Regent Anderson seconded. Motion carried.

6. Approved-UNR, Organizational Unit Change, Department of Agriculture, Nutrition and Veterinary Sciences (Agenda Item #5) – The Committee recommended approval of UNR's request to merge expertise from Animal Biotechnology with the Department of Nutrition, creating the Department of Agriculture, Nutrition and Veterinary Sciences (Ref. ARSA-5a on file in the Board office). This is the result of the 2010 curricular review where the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources (CABNR) was asked to reorganize in such a way as to preserve key elements of the Department of Animal Biotechnology. This proposal includes the creation of the following two new majors:

- Rangeland Ecology and Management, BS (Ref. ARSA-5b on file in the Board office)
- Agricultural Science, BS (Ref. ARSA-5c on file in the Board office)

6. Approved-UNR, Organizational Unit Change, Department of Agriculture, Nutrition and Veterinary Sciences (Agenda Item #5) – (continued)

President Johnson reported that this proposal is a result of major changes in the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources (CABNR). Last year, UNR eliminated the BS in Animal Science, BS in Animal Biotechnology, BS in Agriculture and Applied Economics, and BS in Environmental and Resource Economics. Essentially, those four degrees will be collapsed into the BS in Agricultural Science. Dr. Johnson indicated that during the budget cutting process, it became clear that there is still an interest within this state for UNR to provide an opportunity to get an agriculture degree. The faculty worked together to create a single BS in Agriculture Science.

President Johnson reported that the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences had a BS in Forest and Rangeland Management, and the Department of Animal Science had a BS in Animal Rangeland Production. The BS in Forest and Rangeland Management will be renamed as the BS in Forest Management and Ecology, and will continue as a standalone degree to prepare individuals for entry into the U.S. Forest Service. In addition, components of the Rangeland Management and Rangeland Production degrees will be combined into one multi-departmental Rangeland Ecology and Management degree. President Johnson indicated that rangeland science is fundamental to this state because 87% of Nevada's land is public land and it is used for grazing.

President Johnson indicated that last year UNR closed the Department of Animal Science and the Department of Resource Economics. The remaining faculty from the Department of Animal Science are moving into the Department of Nutrition, which will become the Department of Agriculture, Nutrition and Veterinary Sciences.

Dr. Ron Pardini, Interim Dean for the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources, UNR, indicated that the faculty worked closely with stakeholders to develop this proposal. He noted that there is a multi-state rangeland education program being proposed for the western region and UNR's program will fit in with that.

Regent Anderson moved approval of merging expertise from Animal Biotechnology with the Department of Nutrition to create the Department of Agriculture, Nutrition and Veterinary Sciences, and creating two new majors, the BS in Rangeland Ecology and Management and the BS in Agricultural Science at UNR. Regent Page seconded. Motion carried.

7. Approved-UNR, New Degree, Master of Science in Metallurgical Engineering (Agenda Item #6) – The Committee recommended approval of UNR’s request for a Master of Science in Metallurgical Engineering (*Ref. ARSA-6 on file in the Board office*). This program is brought forward in response to the request and support of Nevada’s mining industry. The program will prepare students for careers in the mining and mineral industries.

President Johnson reported that the mining industry is supporting three endowed professorships. These professors serve the mining engineering and metallurgical engineering programs. President Johnson noted that UNR is proud to work with the industry and offer these degrees.

Regent Crear moved approval of a Master of Science in Metallurgical Engineering at UNR. Regent Blakely seconded.

Regent Blakely indicated that there is a significant need in the mining industry for metallurgical engineers. Many individuals with this background have gone into retirement and need to be replaced.

Motion carried.

8. Approved-UNLV, Organizational Unit Change, College of Education Reorganization (Agenda Item #7) – The Committee recommended approval of UNLV’s request for the restructuring of its College of Education where six academic units within the College will be consolidated into three new departments (*Ref. ARSA-7 on file in the Board office*). The following six departments within the College will be eliminated and those areas of instruction will be addressed in the new departments:

- Department of Counselor Education
- Department of Curriculum and Instruction
- Department of Educational Leadership
- Department of Educational Psychology
- Department of Special and Early Childhood Education
- Department of Sports Education Leadership

The Committee also recommended approval of the second part of the proposal that calls for the establishment of the following new departments within the College of Education:

- Department of Educational and Clinical Studies
- Department of Educational Research, Cognition and Development
- Department of Teaching and Learning (*includes Elementary, Secondary, Post Secondary and Career Technical Education*)

8. Approved-UNLV, Organizational Unit Change, College of Education Reorganization (Agenda Item #7) – (continued)

Dr. Michael Bowers, Executive Vice President and Provost, UNLV, reported that the College of Education will consolidate six departments into three as a result of a year-long strategic planning process. The Department of Educational Leadership and Department of Sports Education Leadership were eliminated as a result of budget cuts and that prompted the College to engage in the strategic planning process and come up with a more efficient and effective College of Education.

Regent Anderson moved approval of the elimination of the following departments within the UNLV College of Education: Counselor Education; Curriculum and Instruction; Educational Leadership; Educational Psychology; Special and Early Childhood Education; and Sports Education Leadership; and the establishment of the following departments within the UNLV College of Education: Educational and Clinical Studies; Educational Research, Cognition and Development; and Teaching and Learning. Regent Blakely seconded. Motion carried.

9. Approved-UNLV, Organizational Unit Change, William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration (Agenda Item #8) – The Committee recommended approval of UNLV's request to restructure its William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration by eliminating the three departments and effectively redirecting the focus of the College to one with one degree and one major in place of four degrees and nine majors (Ref. ARSA-8 on file in the Board office). The changes in the degree programs will come to the Committee for consideration at its September meeting. The following departments will be eliminated as part of this restructuring:

- Department of Hotel Management
- Department of Food and Beverage Management
- Department of Tourism and Convention Administration



9. Approved-UNLV, Organizational Unit Change, William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration (Agenda Item #8) – *(continued)*

Regent Page moved approval of the proposed restructuring of the UNLV William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration including the elimination of the following departments: Hotel Management, Food and Beverage Management and Tourism and Convention Administration. Regent Blakely seconded. Motion carried.

Dr. Bowers indicated that the College of Hotel Administration is relatively small with approximately 35 to 40 faculty. The idea of having three separate departments does not make much sense. In addition, after a year-long strategic planning process, the College wants to become much more of a professional school similar to the law school and the dental school.

Chair Cobb remarked that Mr. Donald Snyder, Dean of the William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration, was a phenomenal addition to the UNLV landscape and he brings a lot of enthusiasm to the College. Dr. Bowers indicated that UNLV is very lucky and pleased to have him. Regent Page noted that Dean Snyder brings a business perspective to the College which is important. He complimented UNLV on a job well done.

10. Approved-Handbook Revision, Scholarships (Agenda Item #11) – The Committee recommended approval of a revision to Board policy (*Title 4, Chapter 18, Sections 3 and 4*) regarding scholarships (*Ref. ARSA-11 on file in the Board office*). Contradictory language concerning GPA requirements for general and college/departmental scholarships was removed and provisions were added to require institutions to comply with federal regulations governing financial aid, providing exceptions for students with documented disabilities and authorizing institutions to establish an appeals process.

Regent Page left the meeting

Dr. Jane Nichols, Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, indicated that this item comes to the Committee from the institutional financial aid directors. The proposed *Handbook* revision will clean up some inconsistent language with regard to scholarships and add language regarding federal policies for financial aid.

10. Approved-Handbook Revision, Scholarships (Agenda Item #11) – (continued)

Regent Blakely moved approval of the proposed *Handbook* revision. Regent Anderson seconded. Motion carried. Regent Page was absent.

11. Postponed-Financial Aid Report (Agenda Item #10) – This item was postponed until the September 2011 meeting.

Chair Cobb complimented Ms. Sharon Wurm, Director of Financial Aid, TMCC, and former NSHE Director of Financial Aid, on her report (*Ref. ARSA-10a on file in the Board office*), and apologized for having to defer the presentation because of time constraints. Earlier in the week, he had read an article that discussed the plight of the middle class and funding higher education costs. Since that topic is covered in the presentation (*Ref. ARSA-10b on file in the Board office*), he wanted to touch upon a couple of items.

In response to a question from Chair Cobb, Ms. Wurm indicated that loans continue to account for almost 50% of financial aid. With regard to the Millennium Scholarship, Chair Cobb noted that there is a misperception amongst the public that it is a full ride scholarship. Ms. Wurm indicated that page 13 of the reference material demonstrates that originally the Millennium Scholarship covered 108% of the registration fees at the universities and that has decreased to 56%. Page 14 shows that the Millennium Scholarship covers significantly less when you add in all of the other mandatory fees that are charged to students in addition to registration fees.

Regent Page returned to the meeting.

With regard to the average unmet need of FAFSA filers, as shown on page 15, Chair Cobb asked where students go to get the rest of the money they need. Ms. Wurm indicated that most students work and some do take private loans, although the System does not collect data on private loans.

Chair Cobb indicated that the Committee will hear Ms. Wurm's full report in September.

12. Postponed-Report on Compensated Outside Services – This item was postponed until the September 2011 meeting.
13. Public Comment – None.
14. New Business – None.

The meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Prepared by: Keri D. Nikolajewski  
Program Officer

Submitted for approval by: Scott G. Wasserman  
Chief Executive Officer and Special Counsel  
Board of Regents