

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 audiotape 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 by the Board of Regents at the December 2016 meeting.

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

Joe Crowley Student Union, Milt Glick Ballroom A
University of Nevada, Reno
87 West Stadium Way, Reno
Thursday, September 8, 2016

- Members Present: Dr. Jason Geddes, Chair
 Mr. Sam Lieberman, Vice Chair
 Dr. Andrea Anderson
 Mr. Trevor Hayes *(via telephone)*
 Mr. Kevin C. Melcher
 Ms. Allison Stephens
- Other Regents Present: Mr. Rick Trachok
 Mr. Michael B. Wixom
- Others Present: Mr. John V. White, Chancellor
 Ms. Crystal Abba, Vice Chancellor, Academic & Student Affairs
 Mr. Frank R. Woodbeck, Executive Director, Nevada College Collaborative
 Ms. Allison Combs, Asst. Vice Chancellor & Director of Public Policy
 Ms. Renee Davis, Director, Student Affairs
 Ms. Linda Heiss, Director, Institutional Research & Data Partnerships
 Mr. James Martines, System Counsel
 Dr. Robert B. Gagorian, President, DRI
 Dr. Mark A. Curtis, President, GBC
 Mr. Bart J. Patterson, President, NSC
 Dr. Karin M. Hilgersom, President, TMCC
 Dr. Marc A. Johnson, President, UNR

Faculty senate chairs in attendance were Mr. Alok Pandey, CSN; Dr. John Rice, GBC; Dr. Bryan Sigel, NSC; Ms. Cheryl Cardoza, TMCC; and Dr. Bill Robinson, UNLV. Student body presidents in attendance were Ms. Jill Robinson, CSN; Ms. Meghan Pierce, UNLV-GPSA; Mr. Brandon Boone, UNR-ASUN; Mr. David Clark, UNR-GSA; and Ms. Diana Gurrola, WNC.

For others present, please see the attendance roster on file in the Board office.

Chair Jason Geddes called the meeting to order at 9:26 a.m. with all members present except Regent Anderson.

1. Information Only-Public Comment – Ms. Roberta Williams, UNR Orvis School of Nursing alumna, spoke in favor of changing the Orvis School of Nursing from

1. Information Only-Public Comment – *(continued)*

an academic unit within the Division of Health Sciences to a free-standing academic program.

Regent Anderson entered the meeting.

The following individuals spoke in support of the consolidation of the UNR College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources (CABNR), the Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station (NAES) and the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (UNCE) into one administrative structure reporting to the dean of CABNR: Dr. Glenn Miller, Professor, UNR Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences; Mr. Lynn Hettrick, Deputy Director, Nevada Department of Agriculture; Ms. Staci Emm, Extension Educator, UNCE, speaking as a private citizen of the state of Nevada; and Dr. Mark Walker, Interim Dean, UNCE.

Dr. Walker said endorsement of the proposal should include a recommendation that UNR and NSHE reinvest in UNCE, and that UNR be held accountable with respect to how it works with UNCE to fulfill the promise of the proposal.

The following individuals expressed concern about the proposed consolidation of CABNR, NAES and UNCE into one administrative structure reporting to the dean of CABNR: Mr. Jim French, Commissioner, Humboldt County Board of Commissioners; Ms. Jeanne Herman, Commissioner, Washoe County Board of Commissioners; and Mr. Jeff Fontaine, Executive Director, Nevada Association of Counties.

Commissioner French requested the proposal be revised to include a restoration of funding and programs to UNCE and that the counties be included in discussions on restructuring.

Mr. Fontaine said the counties are apprehensive about continuing to fund UNCE without a similar contribution from the state. He recommended a serious conversation about the funding and support of UNCE and the inclusion of UNCE in strategic planning discussions.

The following individuals spoke in opposition to the proposed consolidation of CABNR, NAES and UNCE into one administrative structure reporting to the dean of CABNR: Mr. Frank Flavin, Area Director, UNCE, speaking as a private citizen of the state of Nevada; and Ms. Claudine Wharton, Communications Specialist, UNCE, speaking as a private citizen of the state of Nevada.

Ms. Wharton noted a survey of UNCE faculty showed two-thirds are against the proposed consolidation. She emphasized the need for a restoration of funding to UNCE.

1. Information Only-Public Comment – (continued)

Chair Geddes noted letters expressing concern about the consolidation proposal were received from the Nevada Farm Bureau Federation, Douglas County Board of Commissioners, Humboldt County Board of Commissioners, Elko County Board of Commissioners, and the Nevada Association of Counties (*letters on file in the Board office*). The primary concern among those who submitted letters is the restoration of funding to UNCE.

2. Approved-Consent Items – The Committee recommended approval of the consent items, with the exception of item 2c which was pulled for separate consideration at the request of Regent Stephens.

(2a.) Approved-Minutes – The Committee recommended approval of the minutes from the June 9, 2016, meeting (*Ref. ARSA-2a on file in the Board office*).

(2b.) Approved-UNLV, Program Elimination, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies – The Committee recommended approval of UNLV's request to eliminate its Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies (*Ref. ARSA-2b on file in the Board office*). Relevant courses for these two programs are being subsumed into the existing Bachelor of Science in Public Administration, and the curriculum for that degree is being updated. Students currently enrolled in the program will be allowed to complete their degrees.

(2d.) Approved-UNLV, Organizational Unit Elimination, Center for Education Policy Studies – The Committee recommended approval of UNLV's request to eliminate its Center for Education Policy Studies that is no longer funded and has not been operational since the retirement of its director (*Ref. ARSA-2d on file in the Board office*).

(2e.) Approved-UNLV, New Organizational Unit, Center for Migration, Demography and Population Studies – The Committee recommended approval of UNLV's request for a new Center for Migration, Demography and Population Studies (CMDP) (*Ref. ARSA-2e on file in the Board office*). Currently, there is no research devoted to the study of migration, demography and population changes at any of the universities or institutions of higher education in the Mountain West. With its population growth and demographic diversity due to migration, southern Nevada is an ideal location for the CMDP.

2. Approved-Consent Items – (continued)

- (2f.) Approved-UNR, Program Deactivation, Master of Science in Secondary Education – The Committee recommended approval of UNR’s request to deactivate its Master of Science in Secondary Education due to low enrollment in the program (*Ref. ARSA-2f on file in the Board office*). New students will be advised to enroll in another master’s program in the College of Education.
- (2g.) Approved-UNR, Organizational Unit Change, Orvis School of Nursing – The Committee recommended approval of UNR’s request to change its Orvis School of Nursing (OSN) from an academic unit within the Division of Health Sciences to a free-standing academic program (*Ref. ARSA-2g on file in the Board office*). Based on its enrollment growth over the past decade, the success in student and faculty outcomes, and its increased reputation locally and nationally, the Orvis School of Nursing is well-situated for such a transition to a freestanding academic unit with a dean. The OSN is the only nursing program in the NSHE headed by a director instead of a dean. The proposed change is consistent with best practices for schools of nursing at research universities, and a “deanship” would allow for a “seat at the table” at state and national events that are critical when negotiating legal and political concerns within the nursing profession.
- (2h.) Approved-UNR, New Organizational Unit, Nevada Institute for Sustainability – The Committee recommended approval of UNR’s request for the creation of the Nevada Institute for Sustainability (NIS) that will be involved in research on enhancing and improving the efficiency and safety of existing power plants and the development and commercialization of efficient, less-polluting energy technologies for the future (*Ref. ARSA-2h on file in the Board office*). The NIS will bring together faculty members from various departments at UNR and partner with external members from national laboratories, other institutions, and industry to ensure that the cutting-edge research and education programs are both relevant and globally competitive.
- (2i.) Approved-CSN, Academic Master Plan Revision – The Committee recommended approval of CSN’s request for a revision to its Academic Master Plan, previously approved at the December 2014 meeting, to include among its planned programs an Associate of Applied Science in Facility Maintenance and Manufacturing (*Ref. ARSA-2i on file in the Board office*).

2. Approved-Consent Items – (continued)

- (2j.) Approved-TMCC, Academic Master Plan Revision – The Committee recommended approval of TMCC’s request for a revision to its Academic Master Plan, previously approved at the December 2014 meeting, to include among its planned programs an Associate of Applied Science in Construction and Design (*Ref. ARSA-2j on file in the Board office*).
- (2k.) Approved-Handbook Revision, SAT Concordance Scores – The Committee recommended approval of a revision to Board policy concerning the concordant SAT scores for the SAT tests administered in March 2016 and later (*Ref. ARSA-2k on file in the Board office*). The College Board recently redesigned its SAT Suite of Assessments, which includes the SAT. The proposed revision will include concordant scores for the new SAT where such scores are currently utilized in Board policy, including for placement into gateway English and mathematics courses (*Title 4, Chapter 16, Section 1*), university admissions (*Title 4, Chapter 16, Section 4*), and eligibility for the Millennium Scholarship (*Title 4, Chapter 18, Sections 9.2.1, 9.3.1, and 9.4*).
- (2l.) Approved-Handbook Revision, Catalog Selection for Graduation Requirements – The Committee recommended approval of a revision to Board policy governing the catalogs under which a student may elect to graduate from a university or the state college (*Ref. ARSA-2l on file in the Board office*). Currently, this policy allows case-by-case exceptions for transfer students. The revision expands the authorization to make exceptions on a case-by-case basis to all students instead of limiting such exceptions to transfer students (*Title 4, Chapter 16, Sections 17 and 37*).
- (2m.) Approved-Handbook Revision, Contracts for Instructional Materials – The Committee recommended approval of a revision to Board policy authorizing the institutions to negotiate and enter into contracts with publishers, bookstores, and/or similar providers and vendors to allow instructional materials to be offered to students at a reduced cost (*Ref. ARSA-2m on file in the Board office*). While the institutions currently may enter into such agreements, such authorization is not explicitly stated in the Board’s *Handbook*. Including the language within the Board’s policy governing instructional materials (*Title 4, Chapter 14, Section 29*) will make clear that such transactions are permissible and supported by the Board.

Regent Melcher moved approval of the consent items with the exception of item 2c. Vice Chair Lieberman seconded. Motion carried.

2. Approved-Consent Items – (continued)

The following consent item was considered separately.

- (2c.) Approved-UNLV, Program Deactivation, Doctor of Philosophy in Workforce Development and Organizational Leadership – The Committee recommended approval of UNLV’s request to deactivate its Ph.D. in Workforce Development and Organizational Leadership (*Ref. ARSA-2c on file in the Board office*). With the evolution in the field of organizational leadership, the existing degree and community needs are not aligned. Students currently enrolled in the program will be allowed to complete their degrees.

Regent Stephens requested additional information on why the existing degree is not aligned with current community needs. Dr. Carl Reiber, Senior Vice Provost, UNLV, said the program and some of its faculty were moved from the College of Education to the College of Urban Affairs as a result of the restructuring that took place during the recession. Since then, a number of those faculty have departed and the College of Urban Affairs is realigning its mission toward public policy. Students in the program were finding it increasingly difficult to have appropriate courses and faculty to mentor them; therefore, UNLV is requesting the program be deactivated. Dr. Reiber noted the College of Urban Affairs is developing a doctoral program in one aspect of workforce development and the other aspect will be rebuilt in the College of Education.

Regent Stephens moved approval of consent item 2c. Regent Melcher seconded. Motion carried.

3. Approved-UNR, Program Proposal, Doctor of Philosophy in Mathematics – The Committee recommended approval of UNR’s request for a Doctor of Philosophy in Mathematics to offer an advanced degree in a STEM discipline for students interested in pursuing careers in banking, insurance, engineering, computing, research and development, finance, and data analysis (*Ref. ARSA-3 on file in the Board office*). Employment for mathematicians, especially those with advanced degrees is expected to increase by 23 percent by 2022, and this program will help train Nevada students to take advantage of these career opportunities in Nevada and around the country.

Regent Melcher moved approval of a Doctor of Philosophy in Mathematics at UNR. Regent Stephens seconded.

Dr. Kevin Carman, Executive Vice President and Provost, UNR, provided a brief review of the proposal.

Motion carried.

4. Approved-UNR, Program Proposal, Doctor of Philosophy in Statistics and Data Science – The Committee recommended approval of UNR’s request for a Doctor of Philosophy in Statistics and Data Science (*Ref. ARSA-4 on file in the Board office*). The program will emphasize interdisciplinary collaborative research, which is intrinsic to Statistics and Data Science, and will build research and computational skills to position students to be competitive in pursuing careers in academia, pharmaceutical companies and research institutions.

Dr. Carman provided a brief review of the proposal.

Regent Anderson moved approval of a Doctor of Philosophy in Statistics and Data Science at UNR. Vice Chair Lieberman seconded. Motion carried.

5. Approved-UNR, Program Proposal, Bachelor of Arts in Dance – The Committee recommended approval of UNR’s request for a Bachelor of Arts in Dance that will allow students to engage in the rigorous physical practice of dance training, while simultaneously developing a deep understanding of the historical, cultural and performative lineage that underpins the field of dance (*Ref. ARSA-5 on file in the Board office*). Students pursuing this major will gain skills necessary to enter the field as dance practitioners, educators, administrators and/or scholars.

Dr. Carman provided a brief review of the proposal.

Regent Stephens moved approval of a Bachelor of Arts in Dance at UNR. Vice Chair Lieberman seconded. Motion carried.

6. Information Only-NSHE Sponsored Funding Report (Agenda Item 15) – Ms. Lori Brazfield, Director of the NSHE Sponsored Programs Office, presented highlights from the 2014-15 *NSHE Sponsored Funding Annual Report (Refs. ARSA-15a and ARSA-15b on file in the Board office)*.

The report included information on sponsored program awards and expenditures for all NSHE institutions.

Regent Stephens observed a disparity in program awards between UNR and UNLV. Ms. Brazfield said the higher award amount at UNR may be attributed, in part, to the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine. She noted the fiscal year cycle may also impact reporting from year to year.

Dr. Mridul Gautam, Vice President for Research and Innovation, UNR, identified major areas of research activity at UNR including the medical school, physics and engineering departments and the College of Education. He offered to share information on the things UNR is doing to make faculty more competitive at the

6. Information Only-NSHE Sponsored Funding Report (Agenda Item 15) – (continued)

national and international level.

Dr. Diane Chase, Executive Vice President and Provost, UNLV, noted UNR has a more mature research enterprise; however, UNLV is actively working to increase its research productivity and is looking to hire new research faculty and a vice president for research this year.

7. Approved-Handbook Revision, Dual and Early Enrollment for High School Students (Agenda Item 10) – The Committee recommended approval of a revision to Board policy concerning early and dual enrollment of high school students (*Title 4, Chapter 16, Sections 2, 8, and 28, and Title 4, Chapter 17, Section 12*) (Ref. ARSA-10 on file in the Board office). Specifically, the proposed revision asserts the NSHE's commitment to working with the secondary education community to help prepare students for post-secondary education and the workforce, including providing opportunities for earning college-level credit while in high school. The revisions broaden existing authority so that institutions may offer programs and courses, including distance education courses, to high school students at a reduced registration fee that still covers the costs of the course or program. The revisions also define various terms, including high school student, dual enrollment and early enrollment. In addition, a report on the dual enrollment programs currently offered by NSHE institutions will be presented.

Ms. Crystal Abba, Vice Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs, provided a brief review of the proposed policy revision.

Vice Chair Lieberman moved approval of the proposed *Handbook* revision as presented. Regent Anderson seconded.

Mr. Bart J. Patterson, President, NSC, said NSC pulled back a bit from dual enrollment and is planning to come back to it in a more measured way. Some of the programs NSC was previously involved in were not fully preparing students for college. He stressed the importance of ensuring that dual enrollment programs are designed to provide a college-level experience.

Regent Melcher added it is important to monitor dual enrollment programs for quality and academic rigor.

Regent Hayes observed Texas was at the forefront of the dual enrollment movement and is now pulling back a bit due to concerns about quality and the delivery of college course instruction by high school teachers. He asked if the NSHE has quality measures in place for its dual enrollment courses. Vice Chancellor Abba indicated high school teachers are not teaching these courses in Nevada. Part of what makes the programs challenging is finding faculty to teach the courses. She noted the national data indicate students in dual enrollment

7. Approved-Handbook Revision, Dual and Early Enrollment for High School Students (Agenda Item 10) – (continued)

programs are more likely to continue on to college and to be successful once they get there.

Regent Stephens said she is looking forward to a deeper discussion of this topic at the joint meeting of the Board of Regents and the Nevada State Board of Education in October.

Motion carried.

8. Approved-Handbook Revision, NSHE Internal Transcript Exchanges (Agenda Item 12) – The Committee recommended approval of a revision to Board policy eliminating the fees associated with electronic transcript exchanges between NSHE institutions (Title 4, Chapter 17, Section 21 and new Section 22) (Ref. ARSA-12 on file in the Board office). The proposed revisions prohibit institutions from charging students a fee for electronic transfers of transcript data between NSHE institutions and further authorize institutions to establish protocols for the exchange of electronic transcript data for the purpose of facilitating transfer admission, reverse transfer, supplemental enrollment evaluation, graduation and similar activities, provided student consent is obtained in compliance with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Nevada Revised Statutes 396.535.

Vice Chancellor Abba provided a brief review of the proposed policy revision.

Regent Stephens moved approval of the proposed *Handbook* revision as presented.
Regent Anderson seconded. Motion carried.

9. Approved-TMCC, Program Proposal, Associate of Applied Science in Construction and Design (Agenda Item 8) – The Committee recommended approval of TMCC's request for an Associate of Applied Science in Construction and Design (Ref. ARSA-8 on file in the Board office). Responding to recommendations from the Nevada State Board of Architects, the Nevada State Board of Landscape Architects and the 2014-15 TMCC Architectural Program Unit Review, this program will prepare students for entry level and professional positions in construction and design and offer advanced studies in this field.

Regent Melcher moved approval of an Associate of Applied Science in Construction and Design at TMCC. Vice Chair Lieberman seconded. Motion carried.

10. Approved-CSN, Program Proposal, Associate of Applied Science in Facility Maintenance and Manufacturing (Agenda Item 7) – The Committee recommended approval of CSN’s request for an Associate of Applied Science in Facility Maintenance and Manufacturing that will assist students pursuing employment in this industry in southern Nevada as provided for under the Workforce Innovations for a New Nevada (WINN) Act (*Ref. ARSA-7 on file in the Board office*). The manufacturing sector in southern Nevada is currently experiencing tremendous growth, and this program will respond to the need for a skilled workforce in facility maintenance and manufacturing to fulfill the high demands of employers.

Regent Anderson moved approval of an Associate of Applied Science in Facility Maintenance and Manufacturing at CSN. Regent Stephens seconded. Motion carried.

11. Approved-UNR, Organizational Unit Change, College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources (Agenda Item 6) – The Committee recommended approval of UNR’s request for the consolidation of the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources (CABNR), the Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station (NAES), and the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (UNCE) into one administrative structure reporting to the dean of CABNR (*Ref. ARSA-6 on file in the Board office*). Currently, CABNR and NAES report to a single dean and director, while the UNCE is a separate entity with its own dean and director. This consolidation responds to a 2012 directive from the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) indicating that land-grant universities are expected by the federal government to have Agricultural Experiment Stations (AES) and Cooperative Extension (CE) programs that are very closely aligned and “integrated.” The NIFA directive for “integrated” CE and AES programs is based on its desire to encourage institutions to align their programs more accurately with their research and extension activities, and to demonstrate effective partnership and leveraging in the use of federal grant dollars. While the directive does not require the consolidation of these units, the administrative consolidation of NAES, UNCE, and CABNR is expected to greatly improve their ability to work together.

Regent Melcher moved approval of the consolidation of the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources (CABNR), the Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station (NAES), and the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (UNCE) at UNR into one administrative structure reporting to the dean of CABNR. Regent Stephens seconded.

Dr. Carman expressed appreciation for the remarks made earlier during public

11. Approved-UNR, Organizational Unit Change, College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources (Agenda Item 6) – (continued)

comment. He noted one thing everyone can agree on is that a 70 percent budget cut to a program has a significant impact. He also heard that the citizens of Nevada value the services provided by UNCE.

Dr. Carman said he recognizes that funding is a challenge and he hopes to find a way to add funding back to UNCE; however, the consolidation proposal is independent of the budget issue. He has researched the issue and talked with colleagues around the country and he firmly believes this is the best model going forward. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) provides formula-based funding for both the NAES and UNCE. The programs supported by NIFA for the NAES and UNCE are identical. In 2012, NIFA directed programs of agricultural experiment stations and cooperative extensions to provide joint plans of work and joint annual reporting. As a result of this directive, many land grant universities have aligned these programs administratively. Dr. Carman noted the overwhelming model among western land grant universities is one where cooperative extension resides within, or is closely aligned with, the college of agriculture.

Dr. Carman explained the proposal is for an administrative consolidation that will have UNCE report to the dean of CABNR. The director of UNCE will also hold the title of associate dean for engagement and will bring to bear the resources not only of CABNR, but the entire university. There will also be a director of the NAES and associate dean of research.

Dr. Carman said he has provided assurances in writing that the integrity of UNCE's budget will be maintained. UNCE will retain its name and faculty. Dr. Carman said there are opportunities for efficiency in terms of the administrative infrastructure including human resources, information technology and accounting. The collaboration between UNCE, NAES and CABNR will allow for leveraging those limited staff resources.

Dr. Carman pledged to continue to work with the Nevada Association of Counties (NACO) and to establish a liaison supported by UNCE that will work directly with NACO and the counties to improve communication and ensure their needs are met and concerns are addressed.

Chair Geddes said he will support the proposal, but he wants to be clear that UNR will be held accountable for the things it has pledged. He stressed the importance of engaging the counties in new program development and restructuring. In addition, Chair Geddes requested that UNCE be considered if new funds are made available through the budget process. Dr. Carman indicated UNR has pledged to direct positions to UNCE if funds are provided during the next legislative session. Chair Geddes requested that the working group referenced in the consolidation

11. Approved-UNR, Organizational Unit Change, College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources (Agenda Item 6) – (continued)

proposal be tasked with reviewing how those positions are valued in order to make sure they are on an equal footing with other departments.

Chair Geddes noted the proposal mentions strong ties to business, education and science and Dr. Carman has pledged those ties will remain. Chair Geddes said he would like to see them expanded and strengthened. He recalled past discussions about UNCE in the individual counties having a closer tie to medical health centers and business outreach centers to make sure they are serving communities statewide. Dr. Carman said those programs are part of a larger umbrella of outreach programs that UNR provides to the state and they all need to be well-integrated.

Chair Geddes said he would like a progress report presented to the Committee every six months with the first report coming in March 2017.

Regent Hayes said it makes sense to work closely with the counties to gain their support for the proposal. He asked if funding provided by the counties for UNCE is being placed at risk by moving forward with the consolidation. Dr. Carman indicated he has responded with assurances to NACO. He acknowledged the counties are not satisfied; however, their primary concern relates to budget and funding for UNCE which is beyond the control of the university at the moment, but will be addressed going forward.

Regent Hayes said he is not sure he can support the proposal. He does not believe there has been a resolution with the largest benefactors of UNCE. Consolidation may ultimately be a good idea, but he is not sure this is the right moment to move forward.

Regent Anderson observed that funding seems to be the underlying complication. Opportunities for collaboration and improved communication, combined with the assurances provided by Dr. Carman, lead her to favor the proposal.

Vice Chair Lieberman said he cannot support the proposal. He believes UNR should work with the counties and find a way for UNCE to remain a separate entity.

Regent Melcher expressed support for UNCE and the proposed consolidation. He believes it is time to move forward with all parties engaged and progress reports coming to the Committee every six months.

Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried. Regents Anderson, Geddes, Melcher and Stephens voted yes. Regents Hayes and Lieberman voted no.

12. Approved-Handbook Revision, Unmanned Aircraft Systems (Agenda Item 11) – The Committee recommended approval of revisions to Board policy governing unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) (*Title 4, Chapter 1, new Section 34*) (*Ref. ARSA-11 on file in the Board office*). Specifically, the proposed policy requires compliance with federal and state laws, and any other locally applicable laws or regulations regarding UAS. Board policy and procedures subsequently adopted by the institutions would further define the requirements for the use and operation of UAS on campuses by faculty, staff and students, including registration/approval of UAS vehicles on campus; restrictions on UAS flights over sporting and other outdoor events; use for research; and third-party requests for flights over campus, as well as flexibility to address other operations of UAS as necessary. In addition, the proposed provisions include sanctions for violations of Board policy and specify that fines or damages incurred by individuals, institutional departments or units that do not comply with the policy will not be paid by the NSHE and will be the responsibility of those persons involved.

Ms. Brooke Nielsen, Vice Chancellor, Legal Affairs, provided a brief review of the proposed policy revision.

Vice Chair Lieberman moved approval of the proposed *Handbook* revision as presented. Regent Anderson seconded.

In response to a question from Regent Stephens, Vice Chancellor Nielsen indicated the option for presidents to delegate this responsibility to an individual designee was included by request and is consistent with the Board's policy on firearms.

Motion carried.

13. Approved-Handbook and Procedures and Guidelines Manual Revisions, Registered Offenders – The Committee recommended approval of a policy concerning registered offenders (*Title 4, Chapter 1, new Section 34*) (*Ref. ARSA-13 on file in the Board office*). Specifically, the policy establishes the NSHE's commitment to promoting a safe and secure environment at all of its institutions and requires institutions to comply with federal and state law and policies set forth by the Board of Regents governing registered offenders, who are defined to include any individual required to register as a sex offender or an offender convicted of a crime against a child. Based on the nature of the offense and risk level of the registered offender, the policy authorizes institutions to deny admission, revoke admission, limit enrollment and/or restrict the activities of a student, employee or other individuals on the campus who are registered offenders. The policy also requires each president to develop procedures governing these activities and requires registered offenders to self-identify to the institution. Related policy revisions are included under Title 4, Chapter 1, Section 12, to require presidents to designate institutional representatives to coordinate with law enforcement

13. Approved-Handbook and Procedures and Guidelines Manual Revisions, Registered Offenders – (continued)

agencies. Finally, the revisions delete related provisions under Chapter 4, Section 12 of the *Procedures and Guidelines Manual*, which are now outdated.

Vice Chancellor Nielsen provided a brief review of the proposed policy revisions.

Regent Melcher moved approval of the proposed *Handbook and Procedures and Guidelines Manual* revisions as presented. Regent Anderson seconded.

Regent Stephens said it is important to make sure any denials are based on the potential to have interaction with a minor or someone who could be a potential victim and not for the purposes of being discriminatory.

Motion carried.

14. Approved-Handbook and Procedures and Guidelines Manual Revisions, Elimination of Geographic Service Areas – The Committee recommended approval of a revision to Board policy eliminating the geographic service areas defined under the Board's policy governing distance education and references to service areas in other areas of Board policy, along with making related technical changes (*Title 4, Chapter 14, Sections 2, 3, 4 and 13; Title 4, Chapter 16, Sections 13, 22 and 33; and Title 4, Chapter 17, Section 17 of the Handbook, and Chapter 2, Section 2 and Chapter 17, Sections 1 and 2 of the Procedures and Guidelines Manual*) (Ref. ARSA-14 on file in the Board office).

Chair Geddes indicated the intent of the proposed policy revisions is to grant flexibility to the institutions so they can work together and determine how to best serve a community.

Regent Melcher said someone will need to broker the initial determination of which institution is the primary-serving institution for each area. He noted those determinations could be based on current service areas. From that point on, the institutions can determine which one is best suited to offer a new program.

Regent Melcher moved approval of the proposed *Handbook and Procedures and Guidelines Manual* revisions as presented. Regent Anderson seconded. Motion carried.

15. Information Only-2014-15 NSHE Financial Aid Report and Silver State Opportunity Grant Program (Agenda Item 9) – Vice Chancellor Crystal Abba and Director of Student Affairs Renee Davis presented highlights from the 2014-15 *NSHE Financial Aid Report* including information on financial aid programs and

15. Information Only-2014-15 NSHE Financial Aid Report and Silver State Opportunity Grant Program (Agenda Item 9) – (continued)

awards distributed across the System. The report also included an update on the Silver State Opportunity Grant Program created by the 2015 Nevada Legislature (*Refs. ARSA-9a and ARSA-9b on file in the Board office*).

Regent Melcher said the Silver State Opportunity Grant is a great program and he is glad the NSHE is pursuing an increase in funding from the Legislature for the next biennium.

16. Information Only-New Business – None.

17. Information Only-Public Comment – None.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Prepared by: Keri D. Nikolajewski
Manager of Board Operations

Submitted for approval by: Dean J. Gould
Chief of Staff and Special Counsel to the Board of Regents