

BOARD OF REGENTS  
BRIEFING PAPER

- 1. Agenda Item Title: Approval of President Emeritus Status – Dr. Mark Curtis**  
**Meeting Date: June 8-9, 2017**

**2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:**

Title 4, Chapter 3, Section 32 of the Board of Regents' *Handbook* governs the granting of emeritus status for former presidents. Presidents that have served at least five years and choose to retire are eligible for emeritus status under the policy. Emeritus status is given upon the recommended by the Chancellor and approval of the Board. Presidents granted emeritus status are entitled to office space on campus and other attendant privileges such as an email address and other minimum administrative support.

Attached for the Board's consideration is a memorandum from Chancellor White recommending that the Board grant emeritus status to Dr. Mark Curtis upon his retirement as President of Great Basin College. Emeritus status for President Curtis would be effective as of his retirement – July 1, 2017.

**3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:**

Chancellor White requests and recommends that the Board grant emeritus status to President Mark Curtis effective as of his retirement commencing July 1, 2017.

**4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):**

Dr. Curtis has served as President of Great Basin College for more than five years. In recognition of that service and his accomplishments as president, the Chancellor recommends that the Board grant emeritus status to Dr. Curtis.

**5. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:**

See attached Memorandum

**6. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

**7. ALTERNATIVE(S) TO WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED/RECOMMENDED:**

Take no action on this Chancellor White's recommendation at this time.

**8. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:**

- Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title 4, Chapter 3, Section 32
- Amends Current Board Policy: Title #\_\_\_\_\_ Chapter #\_\_\_\_\_ Section #\_\_\_\_\_
- Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter #\_\_\_\_\_ Section #\_\_\_\_\_
- Other:\_\_\_\_\_
- Fiscal Impact: Yes  
Explain: The fiscal impact is limited to the cost of providing office space and other attendant privileges.

**Title 4 - Codification of Board Policy Statements**  
**Chapter 3**  
**PROFESSIONAL STAFF**

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**Section 32. Regents Professor and Emeritus Status**

1. Presidents who choose to retire from NSHE after serving as President for a period of at least five years are eligible for emeritus status and shall be provided office space on campus and attendant privileges. Emeritus status must be recommended by the Chancellor and approved by the Board of Regents.


**Nevada System of Higher Education**  
**John Valery White, Chancellor**

System Administration  
4300 South Maryland Parkway  
Las Vegas, NV 89119-7530  
Phone: 702-889-8426  
Fax: 702-889-8492



System Administration  
2601 Enterprise Road  
Reno, NV 89512-1666  
Phone: 775-784-4901  
Fax: 775-784-1127

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** NSHE Board of Regents  
**FROM:** John Valery White, Chancellor   
**DATE:** May 11, 2017  
**RE:** Recommendation that President Mark Curtis be named President Emeritus

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I am delighted to recommend that you approve Mark Curtis for the honor of President Emeritus for the Great Basin College. Mark has served successfully for five years and is retiring at the end of June, 2017. Mark thus satisfies the requirements to be named emeritus. More significantly, he has served Great Basin College effectively, in difficult times, and with class and honor. He has been a great member of the NSHE team and a strong advocate for his institution.

I have included below a list of Mark's accomplishments while President. As you can see, Mark has done much for the College. I hope you will agree with my recommendation and grant President Mark Curtis the title President Emeritus.

**Select accomplishments of President Mark Curtis during his service at Great Basin College**

- Established a GBC Alumni Association after 45 years of institutional existence
- Customized and Updated the college's official seal for use on diplomas
- Revised and updated all of the college's student and staff recognition ceremonies including graduation
- Negotiated the housing of the Northeastern Nevada Rural Development Authority on the GBC campus to promote economic development
- Established a highly successful Veteran's Resource Center on the campus of GBC
- Received a maximum of seven year's re-accreditation from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities in 2013
- GBC was the lead in writing and receiving an \$8,700,000 TAACCCT grant, Oct. 1, 2013
- Balanced the biennial budget three times, accounting for a total \$6,500,000 cut in state funding (i.e., approximately 35%)

- Authored a series of 8 columns on college knowledge to help increase the enrollment of underrepresented groups. The titles of all eight columns published by the Elko Daily Press are listed below. Each column has been converted into a brochure and translated into Spanish.
  1. The Benefits of a College Education,
  2. Picking the Right College and Getting Admitted,
  3. Types of Post-Secondary Programs and Degrees (length and purpose of each credential),
  4. The Cost of College and Paying for It (tuition, fees, books, living expenses and financial aid),
  5. College Course Basics (semesters, course construction, outlines, syllabi and definitions)
  6. College Enrollment (registration for classes, drops and adds and withdrawals),
  7. How to Study and the Difference Between High School and College,
  8. Graduation and Beyond (transcripts, resumes, job hunting, interviewing, and alumni associations)
- Curtis, M.A. (2015) Leadership and Management: 19 Principles for Success Elko, NV. Great Basin College. A 29 page monograph based upon lessons learned and personal observations following a forty five plus year long career over two decades in management.
- Curtis, M.A. & Farago, F.T. (2014). Handbook of Dimensional Measurement (5th. ed.) New York, NY. Industrial Press.

Note: This industry standard remains the most recognized, respected and comprehensive reference work on dimensional management available anywhere. This new edition provides an exhaustive state-of-the-art treatment of the entire spectrum of dimensional measurement devices and techniques.
- Acquired four additional counties adding 23,500 square miles to GBC's service area
- Acquired 274 acres of Federal land for use in building a new campus in Pahrump, NV
- Developed and successfully implemented a three-part vision for growth of the college
- Doubled the number of graduates in just four years from 303 to 611
- Increased college enrollment by 250 Full Time Equivalents
- Received approval to launch Bachelor's degrees in Biological Science and English
- Built a 10-foot-high scale model of the Mark Chilton Elko Centennial Tower to raise the funds for the 50-foot structure to be built downtown Elko commemorating 100 years since the city's founding.