

BOARD OF REGENTS
BRIEFING PAPER

1. AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Approval of a collaborative arrangement with Udacity (a leading online education enterprise) to offer high tech training utilizing space at UNR's Innevation Center

MEETING DATE: June 8-9, 2017

2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

Title 4, Chapter 14, Section 7, subsection 4 of the Board of Regents' *Handbook* provides that collaborative arrangements with non-NSHE institutions must be approved by the Board if the arrangement involves the physical presence of the non-NSHE institution on the institution's campus or instructional sites.

UNR desires to enter into a collaborative arrangement with Udacity – a leading online education enterprise focused on skills training for high-tech industries. Under this collaborative arrangement, Udacity will offer high tech industry training at UNR's Innevation Center. Additional background information about Udacity is provided below. Udacity's use of classroom or other space at the Innevation Center will be governed by the terms of a temporary license, short-term lease, or space reservation approved in accordance with all applicable Board and UNR policies.

About Udacity:

"New and exciting STEM industries growing in Nevada require a highly-skilled workforce", said Governor Sandoval on March 17, 2017. The shortage of highly-skilled workforce to fill the new economy jobs will deter companies from moving into the area according to the Mike Kazmierski, President and CEO of EDAWN. Udacity, a leading online education enterprise announced a new public and private partnership known as Udacity Connect with local employers, the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) and Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada (EDAWN). To help solve wage growth and underemployment in the US, Udacity is working with local communities outside major urban cities to train their workforces to meet the rising demand for technology workers. Companies throughout the region are signing on to sponsor their current employees to add new skills sets. GOED is providing scholarships for qualified students, as part of a workforce development effort funded through the Workforce Innovations for a New Nevada (WINN) program. The program will offer both online and in-line courses to teach Reno-Tahoe residents to become full-stack web developers – a high demand job in the region. This non-degree, three-month program will prepare individuals for a job as a Full Stack Web Developer, and teach them how to build complex server-side web applications that use powerful relational databases to persistently store data. Udacity's Full Stack Web Developer program will be offered at the Innevation Center, University of Nevada, Reno. The Innevation Center is a collaborative space that was created to stimulate invention, entrepreneurialism, small business and startups. The Innevation Center is designed to build connections between

the University and the community. Since its inception The Innevation Center has become the point of convergence and a meeting place for regional entrepreneurs, innovators, creators, start-ups, entrepreneurship organizations, and for- and non-profit organizations that organize meetings to support and encourage the growth of jobs and wealth in the state of Nevada.

3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

President Marc Johnson, University of Nevada, Reno requests approval of a collaborative arrangement that will allow Udacity to offer high-tech workforce training utilizing space at the Innevation Center.

4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

There is a severe shortage of skilled workers in areas, such as software development, machine learning, autonomous driving and robotics in the region.

5. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

The Innevation Center, University of Nevada, Reno will provide space to Udacity to conduct short-term training courses, which will support workforce enhancement in areas, such as software development, autonomous vehicles, robotics, cybersecurity, and others as needed to fulfill the requirements of companies in Nevada. Benefits of the request are as follows:

- The public-private partnership between local employers, EDAWN, GOED and Udacity will build the in-demand skill set and competitiveness of the region's workforce.
- This highly innovative partnership between public and private sectors will accelerate growth of our regional technology ecosystem.
- Udacity's curriculum will be relevant to the local market needs and job opportunities
- Udacity is working with local employers, known as hiring partners, to match the skillsets of local candidates to the employer's talent needs.
- Local employers include dynamic start-ups and larger established employers - Bomobra, Cycle, No-IP, Convergence Health, and Renown Health (with over 5,500 employees).

6. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

Course offerings, such as those offered by Udacity may not be available to residents of Nevada.

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

Not allow Udacity to offer high-tech training utilizing space at the Innevation Center, University of Nevada, Reno.

8. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:

<input type="checkbox"/> Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title # <u>4</u> Chapter # <u>14</u> Section # <u>7</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Amends Current Board Policy: Title # _____ Chapter # _____ Section # _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter # _____ Section # _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal Impact: Yes _____ No <u>x</u> Explain: _____

Title 4 - Codification of Board Policy Statements

Chapter 14

NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION PLANNING, PROGRAM REVIEW, ARTICULATION AND ENROLLMENT POLICIES

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Section 7. Addition or Change of New Degrees, Majors, Programs, Departments, Schools or Colleges

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4. Institutional affiliation agreements and other collaborative arrangements with non-NSHE degree-granting higher education institutions shall be submitted to the Chancellor and Board of Regents for review and approval at least three months prior to the date of intended implementation, if the agreements involve any of the following:
 - a. Joint offering of academic degree programs;
 - b. A commitment of institutional resources such as personnel, physical space, or finances;
or
 - c. A physical presence of a non-NSHE higher education institution on the campuses or instructional sites of NSHE universities, the State College, community colleges, or the Desert Research Institute.