

BOARD OF REGENTS
BRIEFING PAPER

1. AGENDA ITEM TITLE: KUNV Radio Station Update—UNLV

MEETING DATE: December 1-2, 2016

2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

At the December 2015 Board of Regents meeting, UNLV put forth for Board approval a Management and Programming Agreement (the “**Agreement**”) between UNLV and Nevada Public Radio (NPR), a Nevada non-profit entity. The agreement would have provided that NPR undertake the management, programming, and operation of KUNV, the UNLV noncommercial educational radio station.

The item was subsequently pulled from the Board agenda in response to tremendous student public comments made during the meeting in opposition of the proposed agreement. Specifically, UNLV students expressed concerns of the potential loss of on-air student-produced programming that may come about if the agreement had been approved, including the possible loss of individual programs, news programming, and student-engineered productions. The undergraduate student government, a voice for over 23,000 UNLV students, has provided a resolution in opposition of the proposed agreement—in addition to providing a \$50,000 sponsorship to the radio station.

The UNLV leadership re-evaluated the proposal and worked with the college leadership to rethink the management of the station. Following those discussions, UNLV now intends, after careful consideration, to keep KUNV under its existing affiliation with the School of Journalism and Media Studies, housed in the Hank Greenspun College of Urban Affairs.

KUNV leadership, staff, faculty, students in the Hank Greenspun School of Journalism and Media Studies and community leaders have been working diligently to realign the station in order to meet the needs of UNLV students and the Las Vegas community. Efforts are currently underway to transform the station in terms of building the station’s fundraising capacity, increasing the range, types, and quality of student learning experiences, and developing a cutting-edge public programming initiative that embraces community diversity, learning, and discovery.

3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

UNLV President Len Jessup presents for information only an update on the current plans associated with the KUNV Radio Station at UNLV.

4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

The Board of Regents requested an update to be brought forth at the December 2016 meeting in regards to the KUNV Radio Station at UNLV.

5. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- UNLV has re-evaluated whether the academic mission of KUNV is best served by keeping the radio station in-house; as such, a status update is important and useful to the Board of Regents.

6. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- The Board of Regents may have a full agenda and may not have sufficient time for an update.

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

- Do not provide an update, or provide an update at a later date.

8. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:

- Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title #_____ Chapter #_____ Section #_____
- Amends Current Board Policy: Title #_____ Chapter #_____ Section #_____
- Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter #_____ Section #_____
- Other:** ___no applicable policies found _____
- Fiscal Impact: Yes_____ No_____ Explain:_____