

GREAT BASIN COLLEGE (GBC)
Institutional Advisory Council
1500 College Parkway
Elko, Nevada 89801
Thursday, September 15, 2022 7:00 am (PST)

Meeting Locations:

- Elko - GBC Berg Hall Conference Room – 1500 College Parkway
 - Pahrump - GBC PVC 117 – 551 East Calvada Boulevard
 - Winnemucca - GBC 108 – 5490 Kluncky Canyon Road

MINUTES

(Approved at 11/17/22 GBC IAC meeting)

Call to Order and Roll Call

Due to technical difficulties, the meeting started late. GBC IAC Chair John Tierney called the meeting to order at 7:20 am and the roll call was taken.

GBC IAC members present were Terri Clark, Barbara Gallagher Kidwell, Carline McIntosh, Dave Roden, Stacy Smith and John Tierney. GBC IAC members absent were Billie Crapo. There was a quorum.

Others present:

Paul Allen, ECSD
Karrie Barrett, GBC
Becky Coleman, GBC
Renee Davis, NSHE Interim Vice Chancellor
Amber Donnelly, GBC
Mardell Dorsa, GBC
Mary Doucette, GBC
Joyce Helens, GBC
Veronica Nelson, GBC
Karl Stevens, GBC
Adam Young, WPCSD

Public Comment

Wil Moschetti reported on the Rotary dictionary program. Rotary hands out dictionaries to all the 3rd graders in the area schools. It includes an invitation to attend GBC in ten years. Mr. Moschetti also asked about the status of the proposed change to the charge for the advisory committees.

Approval of Minutes

GBC Institutional Advisory Council reviewed the minutes of the GBC IAC meeting on May 12, 2022. Terri Clark made a MOTION to approve the minutes; Dave Roden seconded the MOTION; MOTION passed unanimously.

Chair Tierney then skipped to agenda item # 6 President's Report.

President's Report

President Helens will be heading to Ely today to speak to the noon Rotary club. GBC is currently scheduled Town Hall meetings in Elko, Ely, Winnemucca, and Pahrump. These Town Hall meetings are an opportunity to get information out and receive information from our communities. The big news to reports is the NSHE Board of Regents met in Elko in September for their quarterly meeting. GBC had two agenda items at that meeting. The first agenda item was the conveyance of the National Guard Property across the street to Great Basin College to be renovated and used for the proposed Mining Center of Excellence. The second agenda item was for approval to continue our research into the strategic alliance with UNR and what that will look like. Both agenda items passed unanimously. Partnering with UNR on many of our functions has given GBC stability. We have become sustainable and increased our enrollment. We will continue to look at what it will look like to have more collaborations with UNR while keeping the Great Basin College name and mission. IAC member Ms. Terri Clark congratulated President Helens on the successful Board of Regents meeting in September. Ms. Clark attended the meeting and was witness to many of the attendees who were quite impressed with the campus and organization. Ms. Clark also commented on the collaborative efforts with UNR. Another phrase she conjures up is integrated support; it's support, and it's integrated. And because it is integrated, it gives us so much more strength than simply standing side by side and agreeing with each other. Ms. Clark is pleased with the approach GBC is taking to maintain what makes us unique, lower tuition, personalized education, smaller classrooms with a warm friendly environment all attributing to an excellent educational experience.

IAC member Ms. Stacy Smith wanted to express her support for the course that GBC is taking with the collaborations with UNR. She is a huge fan of the 3+1 Social Work program. It opens a pathway for people to go even further for a masters. One of rural Nevada's strengths has always been the ability to collaborate. This will be a strength to get past the competitiveness that sometimes come in higher education and putting the students first.

Chair Tierney skipped to agenda item #8, Vice Chancellor for Student & Academic Affairs and Community Colleges Report.

Vice Chancellor for Student & Academic Affairs and Community Colleges Report

Ms. Renee Davis, Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs and Community Colleges reported on the handbook revisions regarding the composition of the Institutional Advisory Councils. The revisions are to give the institution's president the control to create the IAC that is best going to support the campus. This IAC is a perfect example of one that is high functioning. It will all be in President Helens hands to determine what that looks like.

Ms. Davis congratulated GBC on the good work being done with the funds from the Sandy Grant. GBC is doing a great job getting the students enrolled through the program which pays for registration fees and other costs. GBC has a webpage for the Sandy Grant and will have a webpage for the Workforce Incentive Grant.

Ms. Davis talked about the Workforce Incentive Grant which has been approved for 2023-2024. It will fund eligible students in the demand occupation areas.

The search is underway for the Assistant Chancellor for Workforce Development and Community Colleges.

Ms. Davis stated that there will be a presentation at the December Board of Regents' Meeting on the registered apprenticeship programs in the State. There are already some apprenticeships in place for the healthcare and IT fields with more to come.

Chair Tierney asked Ms. Davis the status of the IAC Chairs' meeting. Ms. Davis will explore starting those again in January.

Ms. Clark stated that Northeastern Nevada Regional Hospital (NNRH) has recently established a professional development program for the non-nursing staff to allow them to progress into a variety of fields in health care. Combined with the hospital's tuition reimbursement plan, it sounds like some of these options might really work with the goals of the program.

Chair Tierney thanked Ms. Davis for her report and went to agenda item #4, GBC IAC Chair Report.

GBC IAC Chair Report

Chair Tierney said he has been working on the Educator's conference with Karl Stevens and Mary Doucette. GBC will host the conference again. There was a great deal of challenges during COVID that affected the pedagogy or how classes are being taught. Many teachers got frustrated. The planning group is working with the Nevada Department of Education to create a program to try to encourage those teachers to stay. The event will be online again this year.

IAC Member Reports

Ms. Terri Clark reported that NNRH is conducting a drive-in flu shot clinic on October 15.

Ms. Clark provided information on an upcoming event called Heroes Have Hearts celebration. It is a two-day event to honor those volunteers who keep giving to their community and will give the community opportunities to give to various non-profits who will have booths. The event will be on the new Elko Conference Center. GBC groups are also involved with the event.

Ms. Caroline McIntosh appreciated the information on the Sandy Grant and other grant information and welcomed Ms. Davis whom she has worked with in the past. Ms. McIntosh's focus is the same as at the last meeting – keeping the teachers we have engaged in teaching and attracting new teachers.

It is her hope that we can create more flexibility in the teacher education program. It is time to change the model if we are going to solve this crisis.

Mr. Dave Roden reported there have been some interactive video technology problems with new building in Winnemucca that is being looked at. Mr. Roden reported there is a new Southwest Gas building being constructed ½ mile down the road. He reported that the school district received 40 acres from the BLM for a new school and lithium mine is going to help fund the construction.

Ms. Stacy Smith reported on the upcoming remote area medical event coming up in October. There is a big 18-wheeler medical unit that comes in and they use a local school to set up dental bays to provide full dental services and eye exams and they can make glasses right then. There will be mental and behavioral healthcare as well as full medical and women's health checkups. GBC is a partner in this as well. The nursing students come over and give shots and help with the triage portion.

Vice President for Student & Academic Affairs Report

Vice President Rivera is attending a conference on Hispanic Serving Institutions. Chair Tierney called upon the deans for a brief update.

Mr. Karl Stevens said that he is happy to partner with Chair Tierney in planning the teacher's conference next month. He announced the hiring of a new instructional designer.

Ms. Mary Doucette welcomed Paul Allen who is attending the meeting representing the Elko County School District. She has worked with him on dual enrollment and most recently a skill certificate for high school students in conjunction with the Mining Center of Excellence. The mining courses and gen ed classes would be configured for a 15-credit certificate of achievement that could then go towards an associate degree. The associates degree could then transfer to engineering or geology programs. They are working on getting this certificate of achievement online.

Ms. Doucette has been working with the center directors on the Second Chance Pell Grant for incarcerated students. We have forty students enrolled at the Ely prison.

Ms. Doucette is also working on the CTE counselor workshop that we used to do in conjunction with the Perkins Grant. Due to COVID it kind of went away, but it has been reimplemented. The workshop will be held in October.

Ms. Amber Donnelly reported getting funding for the Medical Assisting Phlebotomy and EKG program. GBC has received \$167,000 for some renovations for the program. There are some supply chain issues that must be dealt with. GBC also received funding from a federal appropriations bill to help us start the Respiratory Therapy program. GBC also received money from the Hemsley Foundation to grow the Sonography program.

Superintendents' Report

Mr. Adam Young, White Pine County School District Superintendent, reported the GBC college instructor teaching diesel to the high school resigned before the school year started which was disappointing given all the hard work that went into recruiting and hiring that person. Mr. Young hopes GBC can get another instructor hired soon.

Mr. Young also mentioned his thanks in the work that Ms. Doucette and others are doing for the teacher prep dual credit component.

New Business

There was no new business

Public Comment

No public comment.

Adjourn

Chair Tierney adjourned the meeting at 8:26 am.

**BOARD OF REGENTS
BRIEFING PAPER**

1. AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Great Basin College and University of Nevada, Reno – Request for Approval of Conveyance Agreement Accepting the Conveyance of Real Property Consisting of the former National Guard Armory Located at 1375 13th Street, Elko, Nevada APN: 001-620-011

MEETING DATE: September 8 & 9, 2022

2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

Background:

At the May 25, 2022 Board of Regents meeting, approval was provided for a three-party Letter of Intent (Exhibit 1) to pursue the acquisition of the former Nevada Guard Armory Building located at 1375 13th Street in Elko between the State of Nevada/National Guard (approved 2/22/22), the City of Elko (approved 3/10/22), and the Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education on behalf of both Great Basin College and the University of Nevada, Reno.

Presidents Helens and Sandoval are now requesting Board of Regents approval of a Conveyance Agreement (Exhibit 2) which incorporates the conveyance of the property between the State of Nevada/Nevada Guard and with the City of Elko, which held a reversionary right for the property.

Acquisition and Management: GBC and UNR intend to jointly occupy and utilize the facility in support of the mining partnership/related activities. This facility will provide a dedicated location for students of both institutions to engage in industry specific educational activities as well as a center for GBC and UNR faculty to collaborate in workforce and research programs. GBC and UNR intend to enter into an MOU outlining these collaborations. It is anticipated that GBC will provide the on-site building management services, and that administratively the building will reside within the Mackay School of Earth Sciences and Engineering budget, in the UNR Statewide Programs Budget Account (B/A 2985), for deferred maintenance and O/M funding tracking and allocations.

Acquisition costs are estimated to be approximately \$200,000 related to an outstanding loan the Nevada Guard currently has on the facility that must be paid as well as other anticipated closing costs. These acquisition and closing costs will be funded from a workforce gift received by Great Basin College. With the completion of the initial facilities assessment, a comprehensive philanthropy plan for both facility renovations as well as future programming is now being jointly developed by the development teams of both institutions, including building and future programming naming opportunities.

Recognizing this transaction is occurring between two State of Nevada entities and the relatively minimal acquisition costs associated with transferring ownership of the land and building, GBC and UNR are now requesting a waiver of the appraisal requirement located in the Handbook Title 4, Chapter 10, table 1.9.

Location of Property: The real property is located directly adjacent to Great Basin College at 1375 13th Street, Elko, Nevada, and commonly known as Elko County Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 001-620-011. (Exhibit 3)

Property Description: The property consists of approximately 1.72 acres containing an

approximately 10,700 square foot office building with detached garage and warehouse buildings totaling an additional 2,412 square feet.

Property Condition Reports: Phase 1 environmental and asbestos inspections were performed by McGinley and Associates in March 2022. The Phase 1 revealed that there was previous removal of an underground gasoline storage tank and soil from the property, however no analytical data or further documentation was provided. A Phase 2 investigation was performed at the site of the tank removal and concluded that there were no further site assessment activities needed at this time. Asbestos inspection was completed. There were no recommendations required for the current condition of the building. (Exhibit 4)

The University of Nevada, Reno Facilities Services Department performed an on-site evaluation and assessment of the property in July, 2022 (Exhibit 5). The objective of this assessment was twofold: 1) to identify required maintenance and repair actions needed to bring the facility into compliance with applicable code, and 2) to provide an order of magnitude cost estimate for improvements, in priority order. The overall consensus of the assessment team rated the building in good condition and the priority one improvement items identified as necessary for occupancy total approximately \$315,000.

3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

Great Basin College President Joyce Helens and University of Nevada, Reno President Brian Sandoval jointly recommend the following Board actions:

1. Approve the Conveyance Agreement related to the real property located at 1375 13th Street, Elko, Nevada;
2. Waive appraisal provision located in the Handbook Title 4, Chapter 10, table 1.9, and;
3. Approval for the Chancellor, or designee, to execute the Conveyance Agreement and associated documents.

4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

- As the collaboration between GBC and UNR matures in developing a statewide approach to mining industry workforce needs, the acquisition of this facility is now appropriate to support program growth.
- The facility identified in this agenda item is available now at a minimal cost and addresses the immediate and future needs of both institutions.

5. CHECK THE NSHE STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL THAT IS SUPPORTED BY THIS REQUEST:

- Access (Increase participation in post-secondary education)**
- Success (Increase student success)**
- Close the Achievement Gap (Close the achievement gap among underserved student populations)**
- Workforce (Collaboratively address the challenges of the workforce and industry education needs of Nevada)**
- Research (Co-develop solutions to the critical issues facing 21st century Nevada and raise the overall research profile)**
- Not Applicable to NSHE Strategic Plan Goals**

INDICATE HOW THE PROPOSAL SUPPORTS THE SPECIFIC STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL

Development of the joint GBC/UNR mining education and workforce facility in Elko will contribute to all five of NSHE's strategic goals. Notably, it will enhance student success by providing learning spaces that make use of best practices in pedagogy. It will enhance workforce development by giving students the opportunity to learn through direct use of current technology that is relevant to their discipline in close proximity to most of the major employers. The new joint use building will facilitate advancement of both institutions' research activities by providing a geographically centered location for outstanding faculty and graduate students. Finally, the facility will contribute toward closing achievement gaps by providing a planned and coordinated space for delivering academic advising and career counseling specific to this key Nevada industry. The new facilities will provide a cohesive sense of community, identity, and pride that will inspire all students to excel.

6. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- As the collaboration between GBC and UNR matures in developing a statewide approach to mining industry workforce needs, the acquisition of this facility is now appropriate to support program growth.
- The facility identified in this agenda item is available now at a minimal cost and addresses the immediate and future needs of both institutions.

7. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- No arguments against property acquisition have been identified.
- No substitute properties or locations have been identified.

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

- None have been identified.

9. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE:

10. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:

X Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title # 4 Chapter # 10 Section # 1.9
 Amends Current Board Policy: Title # _____ Chapter # _____ Section # _____
 Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter # _____ Section # _____
 Other: _____
X Fiscal Impact: Yes X No _____
Explain: Facility acquisition costs are anticipated to be approximately \$200,000

BOARD OF REGENTS BRIEFING PAPER

1. **AGENDA ITEM TITLE:** Great Basin College & University of Nevada Reno -Request for approval of moving forward to continue researching strategic alliance

MEETING DATE: September 8 & 9, 2022

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

There is a new wave of university and college consolidations/mergers within American higher education. Often consolidations have occurred to ensure “survival” of higher education institutions after decades of diminishing resources, steady enrollment decline, and lagging student success metrics. Today however, the dynamics and scope of possible consolidations differ significantly.

As the higher education landscape continues to change, there is now a recognition that future survival depends more on collaboration than competition, more on aligning institutions’ strategic plans with current market forces and industry needs.

Institutions that embrace a mindset of continuous transformation/improvement look to ensure a climate of thriving and not just surviving and see collaboration that may lead to consolidation as a clear strategy focused on preserving mission as well as sustainable financial health which strengthens and supports the higher education legacy.

When struggling institutions consolidate, very rarely are their fundamental defects improved; rather, the consolidation creates one larger institution with additional challenges. It is best to look at consolidation, when both institutions are stable, successful, sustainable and can add more value together than separately to students and communities they serve.

The best-case scenario is two institutions consolidating with complementary strengths to chart a more secure, survivable future while preserving the diversity and excellence represented in their missions and identities. Such is the case with Great Basin College (GBC) and The University of Nevada Reno (UNR).

Once GBC determined its readiness to explore strategic collaborations with UNR in 2018, a set of “opportunity criteria” was developed to identify areas for collaboration, such as

1. **Stakeholder Landscape:** What is our overlapping market that could enhance strategic positioning in workforce development, community engagement, and other areas that are part of both institution’s mission?
2. **Material Resources:** what are our physical assets geographically for shared use?
3. **Financial Resources:** Considering both effectiveness and efficiency, is value added and sustainability increased?
4. **Academic programs:** Complimentary academic portfolio: Can we provide increased access to academic programs strategically to rural and frontier Nevada based on common interests such as a desire to create a well-lighted path for all students to reach their goals and build a better life?
5. **Value-added Assets:** What unique staff/faculty talent/programs exist, such as GBC’s online expertise with options to earn degrees from GBC/UNR in many areas of concentration, GBC’s robust CTE programs geared to adult students wanting to earn a career-relevant credential; two-year associate degrees, short-term technical certificates and customized instruction and technical assistance for Nevada industry.

By creating this strategic operational (including financial) criteria, GBC was able to define clear objectives to guide future collaborations as well. GBC then entered many focused and successful strategic collaborations with UNR over the last four years in various aspects of our business and academic operations, such as combining administrative shared services, linking academic programs, and creating/sharing training facilities such as the upcoming Mining Center of Excellence where GBC partnered with the UNR Mackay School to jointly serve the mining industry with both research/development and academic and training opportunities.

Another example of a shared services collaboration occurred in the midst of a pandemic, budget reductions and significant construction inflation, when GBC planned to build a new 13,500sf addition to the College's Winnemucca Center to address instructional space shortages, consolidating health sciences and electrical technology instruction.

Although a preponderance of the funding was through the philanthropic support of the William N. Pennington Foundation, GBC needed to raise additional funds and expend their own on construction management as GBC did not have that internal expertise being a small, rural institution.

A shared services collaboration between GBC and UNR gave access to scale and expertise in construction management, resulting in \$100,000 savings in direct project administration costs. Similarly, UNR's experience with alternate construction delivery enabled GBC to utilize a *Construction Manager At Risk* approach, saving a total of \$3,500,000 in project costs compared to 2020 State Public Works Board estimates. This collaboration resulted in the project earning the Cashman Award for Good Government in the NSHE category.

The overall result of the GBC/UNR alliance has been transformative change which directly supports and streamlines the educational experience to create the **“Well-lit path”** our students deserve. Becoming more “student-centric” together, where students in rural and frontier Nevada have access to more educational opportunity delivered rurally requires investing in new growth initiatives that affirm our interrelated core values and concepts such as student-centered excellence, inclusiveness of diverse cultures and identities, and broad stakeholder engagement.

Both GBC and UNR are high performing organizations standing alone and together they rise to an even higher level of performance. Their success working together serving students, communities and industry requires looking at what might be the next step in this alliance.

In 2021, the question was posed to GBC by community and industry as well as the GBC Institutional Advisory Committee, “Can we bring higher education back full circle to rural and frontier Nevada (University of Nevada began in Elko in 1874) through a closer association with UNR? Can GBC, maintaining its identity and unique rural mission, consolidate with UNR to preserve the rural legacy?” With that question posed, GBC continued a conversation with UNR to consider exploring a closer alliance that would benefit students and communities we serve and insure the rural Nevada higher education legacy. From there the GBC/UNR executive teams met to begin preliminary discussions, following the same “opportunity criteria” to guide the discussion.

Nationally, there are many different paths to achieve this outcome, and GBC has already researched other higher education collaborations such as:

- Utah State University Eastern, where Utah State University and College of Eastern Utah joined forces to advance the educational opportunities of students and community members in Eastern Utah
- Georgia Perimeter College/Georgia State where Perimeter College is now a college within Georgia State University, a diverse, multi-campus research university in Atlanta. The college is the major provider of associate degrees and student transfer opportunities in Georgia and a gateway to higher education, easing students' entry into college-level study.
- University of Alaska Anchorage/Community and Technical College where Anchorage Community College merged with the University of Alaska Anchorage to provide technical expertise and foundational knowledge to the university and Alaskan Community. The UAA Community & Technical College builds Alaska's workforce and fosters student success through quality education and technical training.

GBC and UNR also had a preliminary discussion with the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) regarding the feasibility of a closer alliance and what that might look like. All our preliminary discussions provided more information about the value of serving our students in new ways and protecting the legacy of serving rural and frontier Nevada.

GBC President Joyce Helens has reported the GBC/UNR collaboration successes to the Board of Regents many times and appreciates the support the NSHE Board of Regents has given GBC and UNR.

3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

Presidents Helens and Sandoval request the Board of Regents approval of continued research and analysis into what a closer alliance- a consolidation- between GBC & UNR would look like and require to expand and ensure the well-lighted pathway providing greater access to higher education and training for the students we serve in rural and frontier Nevada, with the input of the community, faculty, staff and students of both institutions.

4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

After four years of successful GBC/UNR institutional collaborations, we recognize building the future vision of our better serving our stakeholders can materialize only with the continued support of the Nevada System of Higher Education's Board of Regents, as we focus on:

- developing a future-oriented vision for our institutions,
- gathering information and data on the process and impact of a closer alliance,
- ensuring that the rural Nevada higher education legacy continues.

This approval would allow us to expand the scope of our research to include stakeholder and faculty input through structured discussion.

- 5. CHECK THE NSHE STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL THAT IS SUPPORTED BY THIS REQUEST:**
- Access (Increase participation in post-secondary education)
 - Success (Increase student success)
 - Close the Achievement Gap (Close the achievement gap among underserved student populations)
 - Workforce (Collaboratively address the challenges of the workforce and industry education needs of Nevada)
 - Research (Co-develop solutions to the critical issues facing 21st century Nevada and raise the overall research profile)
- Not Applicable to NSHE Strategic Plan Goals

INDICATE HOW THE PROPOSAL SUPPORTS THE SPECIFIC STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL

The GBC/UNR alliance supports transformative change which directly supports and streamlines the educational experience to create the “**well-lit path**” our students deserve. Becoming more “student-centric” together, where students in rural and frontier Nevada have access to more educational opportunity delivered rurally requires investing in new growth initiatives that affirm our interrelated core values and concepts such as student-centered excellence, inclusiveness of diverse cultures and identities, and broad stakeholder engagement.

6. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- GBC & UNR have many focused and successful strategic collaborations over the last four years in various aspects of our business and academic operations.
- Each year GBC and UNR teams have explored next steps in improving services to our students and stakeholders through a closer alliance.
- Expanding the scope of our alliance/consolidation research to include stakeholder and faculty input through structured discussion requires support of the Nevada System of Higher Education’s Board of Regents.

7. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

- Concerns have been identified and addressed.
- Any alliance would preserve the Great Basin College name/identity and rural mission
 - Structured stakeholder discussion will seek additional concerns to mitigate.

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

Status quo.

9. RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CHANCELLOR’S OFFICE:

The Chancellor’s Office supports continued research and analysis of an alliance between GBC and UNR.

10. 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: _____
- Fiscal Impact: Yes _____ No X _____
Explain: _____