

GREAT BASIN COLLEGE
Institutional Advisory Council Meeting
Thursday, February 15, 2024

MEETING MINUTES
(Approved at the 4-11-24 GBC IAC meeting)

Call to Order and Roll Call - IAC Chair John Tierney called the meeting to order at 7:07 am.

GBC Members Present: Terri Clark, Billie Crapo, Dave Roden, Stacy Smith, John Tierney

GBC IAC Members Absent- Caroline McIntosh, Barbara Gallagher

GBC and NSHE Staff Present: Natalie Brown, Amber Donnelly, Mardell Dorsa, Mary Doucette, Mary Dugan, Joyce Helens, Leslie Maple, Sam Spearing, Staci Warnert

Minutes for Approval – The review/approval of the meeting minutes for the meeting on November 16, 2023, was deferred until the next meeting of the GBC IAC.

GBC IAC Chair Report – Chair Tierney spoke on the early education teacher conference will be held in October. He has been working as a mentor for a few teachers in Las Vegas. He also worked with We the People program that simulates congressional hearings helping to answer questions along with Barbara Gallagher. As an attorney she did an excellent job answering questions. Chair Tierney then spoke about the Global Fellow application and the hope that a few experience teachers from Nevada would get selected to go to South Africa.

GBC IAC Member Reports – Terri Clark talked about the hospital's behavioral health unit that's coming up. It is scheduled to open later next year. About six years ago there was a behavioral health unit on the third floor. It closed in 2016. A couple of reasons for the closure was it was hard to keep providers and we did not have enough geriatric patients to keep it open. Today, we have a totally different situation. There are about 225 patients a year that the hospital has had to send to another location to get critical behavioral care. They are already in a mental health crisis, and they show up in the emergency room. The need for a behavioral health unit is there. On the provider side, the hospital has access to a large national Behavioral Health Organization with technical and clinical expertise, processes, and networks that they are bringing to the table. The hospital received a grant from the city from the ARPA funds that will be used to refurbish the patient rooms.

Billie Crapo reported on some of the things that the Elko Chamber of Commerce is focusing on. They continue having their lunch and learns and are scheduling them out for the rest of the year focusing on customer service, branding, social media, and cyber security.

Stacy Smith reported that grant writing season has kept her busy. She commented that she is seeing more energy within the community by an increased participation in fundraising events. The past three large community events that happened to be fundraising events were sold out. They are also seeing the more of the snowbirds coming into the area.

President's Report - President Joyce Helens reported her focus in the next few weeks will be to absolutely make sure there is a seamless transition for Dr. Amber Donnelly's presidency. We have hired Tony Asti for the Executive Director for Finance and Administration. Tony is a retired CFO, who, after

retirement, went into consulting. We have some challenges in looking at our budget. We are reviewing all the MOUs with UNR, TMCC, WNC and CSN to what is working and how much it is costing GBC. President Helens talked about the ad hoc Committee on the Funding of Higher Education. It has several people on the committee such as legislators and others. GBC, Dr. Donnelly, will be presenting at their next meeting in March. Utilities, infrastructure and deferred maintenance, ADA compliance and safety are issues that we have no control over the costs. The committee is being challenged to fix a broken formula funding system that was set up with competition in mind rather than collaboration.

Dr. Amber Donnelly agreed that President Helens is helping to ensure a seamless transition into the presidency. That includes attending some high-level meetings and getting an opportunity to work within the system and build those relationships. She reported she is preparing a presentation to SAMSA on money that we received that is paying for two years of our mental health services and what we need for this important program to continue. As a smaller institution, GBC had the most staff, faculty and students who took the Mental Health First Aid training. This is something to be immensely proud of.

Dean Mary Doucette announced the GBC Career Fair is scheduled for April 17. The GBC Student Award Ceremony will be on April 19. Graduation dates are posted on the GBC website.

Dr. Spearing reported on the Welding Lab expansion. It is schedule to open in time for the fall semester.

Dean Staci Warnert introduced herself as the new dean I am the new Health Science and Human Services department as of last month. Applications are open for all the health sciences programs. Our GBC medical assisting, phlebotomy, and EKG cohort will graduate the in May. We are expanding that program to Winnemucca and Pahrump in the fall. We also received legislative funding from the last session from SB 375 to expand our nursing programs. We have used that funding to hire another nursing faculty in Elko. We are actively recruiting another nursing faculty in Pahrump. We are also actively seeking a nurse navigator position in Pahrump to help facilitate our pre nursing students with advisement and recruitment. We have purchased high fidelity mannequin equipment in our Elko and Ely locations to make sure that all our mannequins are equitable at all our sites that we have high functioning, specialty equipment at all the locations. We are currently preparing our upcoming nursing graduates to take their national boards in the spring.

Dean Doucette reported that GBC received a grant for \$171,000 for a paraprofessional program from the Nevada Department of Education. We started the program online and we have students from all over. We were able to fund thirty-three students. We also just submitted a grant to start the program in Southern Nevada. It would still be an online program, but it would be focused in that area. GBC also has the

Early Childhood skill certificate we implemented the first one in the fall and we started with the cohort of thirty with a grant that was about \$293,000. We have 29 students going into the second skill's certificate line we're introducing the third and the fourth one so they can continue. The other skill certificates GBC is working on are dispatch, technical writing, computer sciences, data science and analytics, and geology technician.

Leslie Maple introduces herself as the new Executive Director of the Foundation. She started her position in November. She stated there are many exciting things going on at the GBC Foundation. She has been focused on getting out and meeting the board members and the donors in all our communities. When Dr. Donnelly talks about the importance of GBC's partnerships, so too, is the donor recognition piece.

Some of the Foundations priorities will be to reestablish the alumni network. She hopes to roll something out with this year's graduating class. The Foundation has also been focused on building up their annual fund and building up the flexible funding that comes into the college. The Foundation has events planned to help build awareness and bring in some financial support. We are looking at doing an event here in Elko on June 22. The Foundation will be putting on the GBC 2nd Annual Golf Tournament. They have also talked about doing golf tournaments at some of our satellite centers. The main priority project currently is the Mining Center of Excellence. That is a collaborative project with UNR Mackay School of Science and Engineering. The Foundation is in the process of refining our case for support and the fundraising for that campaign. The target of the campaign would be upwards of \$3 million.

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Workforce Development and Community Colleges Report – AVC Natalie Brown talked about the ad hoc Committee on Higher Education Funding. There are four more meetings left for that group. It should wrap up in May. There is material and information about the current state of higher education funding and some of the recommendations the colleges have put forward. The other information item I wanted to share is there was a joint interim standing committee on education, where Interim Chancellor Charlton provided a state of the system presentation which was a high-level overview of the different activities and metrics for the Nevada System of Higher Education. The Board of Regents have a new chair and vice chair and new committee assignments. Regent Amy Carvalho is the Chair and Regent Jeffrey Downs is the Vice Chair. The new chair of the Workforce Committee is Regent Heather Brown.

AVP Brown reported attending the Association of Community College Trustees national legislative summit on The Hill. It was a wonderful meeting, not only with other college presidents, administrators, and trustees, but also, she had an opportunity to meet with representatives from the State of Nevada on some of the legislative priorities that are in alignment with what NSHE is looking at doing for all our Community Colleges. The big priority is to support workforce Pell grants students in short term programs. Another big priority is strengthening the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act. One of the pieces under that legislation would be to reauthorize the Strengthening Community College Training Grants Program, which our community colleges have participated in in the past.

Call for New Business: No new business.

Call for Public Comment: No public comment.

Meeting was adjourned by Chair Tierney at 7:50 am.