

Great Basin College
FACULTY SENATE 2022-2023
Friday, May 19, 2022
9:00 am

MINUTES

1. **Roll Call:**
Sam Lackey, Dean Straight, Brandy Nielson (Proxy Glen Tenney), Robert Hunton (Proxy Matt Nichols), Duncan Morris, Veronica Nelson, Madison Arbillaga, Brian Dankowski, Jamie Wilkerson, Karrie Barrett, Eleanor O'Donnell (Proxy Tami Potter), Eric Walsh, Ping Wang, Daniel Bergey, Konstantinos Travlos, Jason Brick, Meachell Walsh, Kimberly Noah, Tim Beasley

Absent Voting Representatives:
Ryan Hathaway

Other members present:

Kevin Seipp (Chair), Dave Sexton (Vice-Chair), Norman Whittaker, Erica Salazar, Sam Spearing, Michelle Husbands, Tami Nette, Gina Johnson, Kristin Heath, Steven Hrdlicka, Jonathan Foster, Jen Stieger, Xunming Du, Yvonne Naunguyan, Donald Jones, John Mittelman, Lyzette Lyon, Jessica Lynch, Deanna Hamilton, Amber Donnelly, Staci Warnert, Daniel Murphree, Gail Rappa, David Antonini, Sheree Beard, Mardell Dorsa, Laura Debenham, Rita Pujari

Others present: President Helens, Vice President Rivera, Director Jared Keller, Kimberly Myers

2. **Call to Order: 9:04**

3. **Updates from President Helens** – Context is everything. For example, our local newspaper in Elko featured outstanding students in other locations than Nevada, and President Helens heard about it from those who fund GBC for Nevada students. If the article instead said that GBC had an online program in which 95% served Nevada, and 5% served other locations, and within that 5% we had outstanding students, it would be different. When information is out of context, that's when she gets phone calls. The same goes with funding.

The presidents gathered at a special board meeting last week and presented on the effects of the unfunded mandates – specifically COLA. No one disagrees that everyone deserves COLA. When they heard of the possibility of a 10% COLA, they were excited. Normally within the state of Nevada, state agencies are funded 80% of that increase, and the institutions must come up with the other 20%. This can be challenging for small institutions, such as ourselves, but we do it successfully. A couple of years ago, there was an error made that someone took a percentage of the percentage, and now the government is only supporting 65%, which was extremely difficult to provide that other 35%. We want the error corrected and funding back up to 80%.

In her All-College Meeting on Monday, President Helens will share some slides with metrics that she will be presenting to the board meeting she is attending in June. She is dedicating 3 slides on funding, which is a topic rarely discussed but still very important. These slides will show that the trend line for enrollment is always up, whereas the faculty lines are even, and although they're even, that's still a cut. Those faculty are now doing way more with less. If we have an increase in enrollment, we need an increase in faculty. It's a huge gap, and yet if government funding stays at 65% for the COLA, there is no place else to cut but the faculty line. There is also a possibility that we will have to raise tuition, as well as cut positions. Everyone must be an advocate, even in these last two weeks, to be able to change the error from 65% to 80%. Any of us are welcome to call or write letters to the stakeholders in the Legislature explaining the situation and pressing the importance in rectifying the error.

Director Keller – There is about 17 days left in the legislative cycle. The economic forum met and there was a lot of positive information, such as more projected revenue within the state. What Director Keller is tracking right now, is the compensation package. The lingering question is what level they are going to fund COLA. One might hear that the state is only funding 64%, but that is just the average across all institutions. They base it on the proportion of funding that we get for state funding in comparison to all other funding, so

for us, it's 73%. This is also why we are being cautious with filling positions, since we must fill the gap between the level of which the government is funding the compensation package and what we are responsible for providing. We don't like holding these positions, but we also want to make sure we have enough in our budgets to bring on new hires. July 1st is when we will have a better understanding of our budgets.

4. **Updates from Vice President of AA/SA, Jake Hinton-Rivera** – An update on our graduates: we have 611 graduates, and walking this year will be 244 in Elko, 59 in Winnemucca, 36 in Pahrump, and 21 in Ely. We also have 12 graduates in the Lovelock Correctional Center.

VP Rivera wants to remind the workforce programs that we did run out of the SANDI grant funding, so we are looking for additional resources to promote these programs.

For summer, we are working on two international student programs. One is a study abroad in Columbia to learn Spanish, and the other is a student exchange program. This summer, we will be offering a summer basketball camp for 12–14-year-olds, both boys and girls, starting in July. CTE working in collaboration with UNR for mining center summer camp and are in the final stages for this summer.

Shout out to the Child Care Center with maintaining their 5-star rating, which means that GBC is the only 5-star childcare facility in Northeastern Nevada.

VP Rivera would also like to add that with the focus on diversity, we had an opportunity this year to look at a grant opportunity called Take-off Institutional Innovations for College Men of Color. It focuses on leadership and retention of men of color. When we submitted our application, we had very little time. Many thanks to Nicole Maher. We put together a proposal called Men Moving Mountains. GBC was one of the 33 applications out of 150 that were initially submitted. If we receive the grant, which will be announced at the end of the month, we can hire someone part-time to administer the men of color to be the mentor and advise those students. We are super excited for this opportunity and think it will be a model for the northeastern area.

5. **Senate Chair Report – Verbal Report** – A budget sub-committee has met and was approved through that sub-committee for 10% in 2024 and 4% in 2025 for the COLA increase. and now moves to the governor All-College meeting

Congratulations to all the graduates and our faculty

Chair Seipp now turns over his chair to the new Faculty Senate Chair for 2023-2024: Dave Sexton.

Thank you Kevin Seipp for your service!

6. **Approval of April 21, 2023 minutes - For Possible Action**

A motion to approve the minutes of April 21, 2023 was overlooked. Approval will occur next Faculty Senate in September.

7. **Standing Committee Reports:**

- a. Academic Standards & Assessment..... **No Report**
b. Bylaws..... **Written/ Verbal Report**

i. Proposed Bylaws Committee Changes – For Possible Action

New from last meeting is the verbiage, which was highlighted in the packet.

A member brings up concern about the deletion of “and results” from item d. under *Academic Standards and Assessment* in the Bylaws. The member explains that in their opinion “assessment” and “results” are the same thing and wonders why it needs to be deleted.

The Bylaws Committee relents the decision to change the verbiage in item d. of *Academic Standards and Assessments*, and thus “and results” will stand.

A motion to approve the Bylaws proposed changes with the correction to strike the deletion of “and results” from item d. under *Academic Standards and Assessments* in the Bylaws was by Brandy Neilson, seconded by Konstantinos Travlos. Motion passes unanimously.

- c. Compensation & Benefits..... **Written Report**
 - i. **Report – Information Only**
- d. Curriculum Review..... **Written Report**
 - i. **Report – Information Only**
- e. Instructional Technology..... **Written Report**
 - i. **Report – Information Only**
- f. Gen Ed Committee..... **Written Report**
 - i. **Report – Information Only**
- g. Library Advisory Group..... **Written Report**
 - i. **Report – Information Only**
- h. Personnel..... **Written Report**
 - i. **Report – Information Only**
- i. Strategic Planning, ad hoc..... **No Report**

8. Unfinished Business:

- i. **New Vice-Chair for Faculty Senate – Welcome Daniel Bergey!**

9. New Business: None.

10. Information Items:

- i. **Foundation Information**

We at the Foundation are finding that donations are being accepted without paperwork. It's important that we are recognizing our donators and for them to receive their tax write-offs, and we do this through the necessary paperwork.

- ii. **Mental Heath First Aid Training – Gail Rappa**

Free for all NSHE employees and students. The training is the first step towards our awareness of noticing mental health concerns amongst our students, peers, and community. Last training is September 26th.

Also excited to report that we are going to be able to start Better Minds, which is a Tela-Health program and a great resource for mental health concerns.

11. Announcements:

1:00pm rehearsal for Elko graduation.

12. Good of the Order: Thank you again, Kevin Seipp for going above and beyond in his service for Faculty Senate Chair.

13. Adjournment..... Action

Konstantinos Travlos moved to adjourn. 9:48am.

