

Great Basin College
FACULTY SENATE 2023-2024
Friday, September 15, 2023
9:00 am

MINUTES

1. Roll Call:

Sam Lackey, Dean Straight, Robert Cowan, Steven Scilacci, Norm Whittaker, Madison Arbillaga, Jamie Carlson, Jessica Lynch, Eleanor O'Donnell, Tami Potter, Eric Walsh, Ping Wang, Rita Pujari, Laurie Walsh, Jason Brick, Denise Padilla (Proxy Kimberly Noah), Tim Beasley

Absent Voting Representatives:

Christopher Salute, Brenda Gonzales

Other members present:

Dave Sexton (Chair), Daniel Bergey (Vice-Chair), Donald Jones, Erica Salazar, Sheila Staszak, George Kleeb, Konstantinos Travlos, Deanna Hamilton, Jen Stieger, Jonathan Foster, Tawny Crum, Steven Hrdlicka, Karl Stevens, Rebecca Hawkey, Ethan Hawkey, Amy Smith, John Mittelman, Brandy Nielson, Daria Horn, Laura Debenham, Glen Tenney, Michelle Beecher, Krishna Subedi, Daniel Murphree, Lyzette Lyon, Susanne Bentley, Xunming Du

Others present: President Helens, Vice President Rivera, Kimberly Myers

2. Call to Order: 9:01

- 3. Updates from President Helens –** Welcome! She hopes all classes are going well. Thank you all in Pahrump for your diligence in protecting against the weather. President Helens thanks Dave for attending the Regional Board Meetings. One of the items she would like to speak about is the report given, which is available to everyone. Dave can also make it available to anyone who asks.

The report is of three models for the future of the system, which she thinks doesn't look very promising nor does it look sustainable. The regents are asking for an ad hoc committee to talk about how the system should look in order for it to be sustainable. This is something President Helens has been doing with MOU, so we can spend money where it's important. We need to look in the future to see what the options are to remain sustainable and preserve that legacy of access to higher education in rural Nevada. President Helens does think it's going to be challenging this next year. There is a funding committee on the fast track, but not more money. When we look at how we are funded, it's all part of the same pie – if someone is getting more another is getting less. Right now, that is what is being looked at, but it's good that there is a light being shined on this matter.

- 4. Updates from Vice President of AA/SA, Jake Hinton-Rivera –** First of all welcome back! He's very excited that there are students on campus. This is going to be a really busy Fall semester, and he says this because of the amount of grants as well as the industry partnerships we've been able to work on. The Academic deans and VP Rivera are going to be doing a short power point presentation on some of those goals at the next All-College meeting.

VP Rivera does want to bring one item forward. Some of you may recall that back in 2019, we had an enrollment management committee. It's time for the 2.0 version of enrollment management. We will be pulling in both by position on certain members as well as volunteers who are interested. One of the big items was the CRM, and we've been actively engaged on that process with implementation of going live hopefully in April 2024.

Another committee that we are looking at moving forward is Policy Review. This committee will be going through all of our policies to make sure they are still relevant.

- 5. Senate Chair Report – Verbal Report:** High points: Regular Board of Regents meeting in June where the COLA was pending. President Helens presented at that meeting. Board of Regents did approve the 12% COLA, but what did fail was the search for a new Chancellor. In the July 21st meeting, there had been an agenda item where President Helens and President Sandoval were going to discuss the merging or consolidation of the two campuses, but that was pulled and did not go forward.

The August board meeting did appoint at the last minute an interim-acting Chancellor. They did form a couple of committees that President Helens eluded to earlier.

There is another possible proposed COLA up to 12%. We are going to send out a survey that will be the same as UNLV about the COLA and what our thoughts are about funding this new COLA. There is a committee looking at all of the different ways we can fund.

Executive Committee – We discussed the want to see everyone’s faces, but we do understand the need for some to require a zoom link. Thank you everyone who is here today. We are asking for people to send in as many reports and any announcements that anyone is willing to share.

There was an agenda item about a possible procedure about the two new presidents who need to be hired: CSN’s president is retiring, as well as our President Helens. It was pulled, but the new meeting for that will take place on September 28th and all of those meetings are available to all. If you need the link, it is on the NSHE website, but Chair Sexton can also give the link if asked. Chair Sexton has spoken to both the Board Chair and the new Chancellor that we would like to have as much input as we can in this election process. It won’t be a lot, but we would like to have as much as we can.

If any of you read the Nevada Independent website, Chair Sexton suggest you do, but the out-going Chancellor gave a really long, in-depth interview about the Board on his way out. Chair Sexton thinks it’s a worthy read.

6. Approval of April 21, 2023 minutes and May 19, 2023 minutes - For Possible Action

A motion to approve the minutes for April 21, 2023 and the minutes for May 19, 2023 by Laurie Walsh, seconded by Dean Straight. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Standing Committee Reports:

- a. Academic Standards & Assessment..... **No Report**
- b. Bylaws..... **No Report**
- c. Compensation & Benefits..... **Written Report**
 - i. Report – Information Only**
- d. Curriculum Review..... **Written Report**
 - i. Report – Information Only**
- e. Instructional Technology..... **No Report**
- f. Gen Ed Committee..... **No Report**
- g. Personnel..... **Written Report**
 - i. Report – Information Only**

8. Unfinished Business: None.

9. New Business:

i. Election of the Parliamentarian for 2023-2024.

According to our Bylaws, we need to vote on a parliamentarian. Donald Jones is nominated, and he accepts. No other nominations.

Senate votes Donald Jones as the Parliamentarian for 2023-2024. Votes are unanimous.

ii. Faculty Senate Committee Review

First time the committees meet, it is suggested that you all go through the committee duties from the bylaws. They may need to be updated, so please take a look.

iii. Formation of the ad hoc AI Committee.

A motion to form an AI ad hoc committee to study AI and come up with an idea for a policy by Laurie Walsh; seconded if we add the Student Government Association will be asked to join. Motion passed unanimously.

Chair Sexton is going to ask for volunteers. Please send him an email if you are interested.

From Bylaws perspective, we need to do a description of the committee, what is expected, and a date of its end.

A member is concerned for the missing pictures of the past professors of Emeritas status that were hanging in the Berg Hall Conference Room to honor them. Where did they go?
Chair Sexton is going to investigate this issue.

10. Information Items: None.

11. Announcements:

There is a new exhibit that Gail Rappa has put together. We were honored with the collection coming from a member of the Shoshone Tribe, and it's related to the 160th Conference of the Ruby Valley Treaty.

There is a new exhibit at the Ruby Valley Trail Center and a reception. There will also be a conference held at the college as well as a conference. The local Shoshone are going to be presenting. There are posters all over campus.

September 22-24 Pahrump is having their annual Fall Festival in the park. If you're in Pahrump, come by and see us.

Down in Ely on Oct 14th there is an eclipse festival with NASA scientists. Multistate robotics tournament will also take place.

12. Good of the Order: None.

13. Adjournment: 9:35