
SEPTEMBER 22, 2022 – MEETING MINUTES

In Person – Red Mountain 256

In Attendance

Nancy McCormick, Sesh Commuri, Joe Nannini, Steve Reid, Milton Stewart, Edward Estipona, Marissa Brown, Melissa Olsen, Krystyna Sokowski, Dr. Karin Hilgersom, Dr. Jeffrey Alexander, Gretchen Sawyer, Tim III, Estella Gutierrez, Elena Bubnova, Dr. Ayodele Akinola, Tina May, Dr. Amy Cavanaugh, Terina Caserto

Called to Order – Introductions

Edward Estipona – Thank you. I'd like to call to order the Truckee Meadows Community College Institutional Advisory Council meeting, it is 9:10. Took roll call. Opened the floor for public comment. There were no public comments.

Introduction of new member s. Kiah Beverly Graham. Kiah, can you please stand up, and just let everybody know a little bit about you and what you do.

Kiah Beverly - Hi everyone, my name is Kiah. I was recently named as the general council for this institution, as well as for the Desert Research Institute, and Western Nevada College. Prior to that, I served as Deputy General Counsel under our prior general counsel, John Albrecht, who recently retired. Did that for about a year. Before that I worked for about 12 years in private practice doing commercial engagement in various law firms. In short, I'm the school's lawyer. I'm also here to offer this body any advice as may be needed.

Approval of Minutes and Future Meetings

Edward Estipona - Welcome to the team. Thank you. Moving on to item four, approval of the minutes. We have two minutes that we have to approve. Starting with the February 25th, 2022 meeting. At this point, everybody's had a chance to look at it. Are there any changes, comments or conversations around this? See none? Okay. At this point I need to move for approval of minutes. Can I get one?

Nancy McCormick -

Institutional Advisory Meeting Minutes

Sesh Commuri - We need to have a draft in a month's time?

Dr. Karin Hilgersom - Yes.

Nancy McCormick - Could you share a little bit about the reasoning of the process from the regents standpoint? I know a lot of thought and effort was put into the original creation of the IACs having been here before that. I'm curious about what started that discussion?

Dr. Karin Hilgersom - I think the impetus for this is that the Community College Committee of the Board of Regents is no longer in existence. It is being reframed as a workforce committee of the Board of Regents, which aligns with one of the five NSHE goals. For those of you who have been around for a long time, a big portion of those community college subcommittee meetings included the IAC chair. It was a bit duplicative. When that sort of direction began, it made sense at that point then to align the IACs, with the goal of workforce development. If you look closely at the previous documents and legislation around IACs, it was a much broader committee. It included curriculum, program development, that may or may not be workforce, it could be anything. It looked to me like a local college board of which I have worked for local college boards, which had a very broad authority over a local community college. At some point in time a decision was made to narrow the focus of the IACs and the community college committee to workforce. Since I've been here there were only two meetings that didn't focus on workforce development. One focused on the co-requisite model, which is indirectly linked to the workforce, and the other we invited liberal arts to present. Now that we are directed to align with workforce, I do think it's important for us to acknowledge that TMCC continues to be a comprehensive community college. We have an equal number of students engaged in liberal arts, including the performing and visual arts. We are very proud of that tradition, and that tradition will not wane as long as I'm here. But on the other hand, when you look at your expertise, many of you are coming from health careers which is considered workforce, and other very workforce specific programs. Does that help?

Nancy McCormick - It's helpful. Thank you.

Edward Estipona - At this point, I am looking for volunteers, so hoping not to volunteer people, is anybody interested in joining the subcommittee to create this proposal for procedures, or process, or system moving forward?

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Edward Estipona - And we have Marissa Brown.

Dr. Karin Hilgersom - That's great. And then we have BJ too, so that will work great.

Edward Estipona - Moving on to item seven on the agenda, president's update. President Hilgersom can you please give us your update?

President's Updates

Dr. Karin Hilgersom - One of the updates I just gave about the June meeting related specifically to the IACs, but I do have a few others. The first item on your agenda was IAC changes. I think we've already covered that and thank you very much. And it's great that we have so many volunteers, that's wonderful.

The other thing that happened at the June meeting was I did the annual TMCC performance metrics presentation. That is a

45-minute presentation. I will be presenting on 10/17/2021 at 10:00 AM in the 1000 building. The presentation is available on the website.

Nancy McCormick - Quick question, are you also meeting with prospective candidates for governor to talk with them about the situation and your concerns in the event that for some reason the current governor is not reelected?

Dr. Karin Hilgersom - Probably.

Constituent Updates

Edward Estipona - Thank you. Do we have any questions or comments for Terina? Hearing none. Moving forward to Faculty Senate with an update from Amy Cavanaugh.

Amy Cavanaugh -

Milton Stewart - Thanks for your time this morning. My name's Milton Stewart. I'm the CEO for Nevadaworks. I wanted to give this group an idea of what it is that we do so that we can determine how we can leverage the work that we do through this committee. We start from the premise that a strong workforce is a key to a vibrant and diverse economy. And Nevadaworks is the local board here to help. We have primary sets of customers, employers, and job seekers. For job seekers, one of the mandates that we have is that we target those that are underserved and that have barriers to employment. We want to make sure that those job seekers have more stability in their lives so that they're able to either go through training or get employment. Through the services that we offer, one of the goals is to increase the earning potential for those individuals.

Milton Stewart - Thank you Nancy !

Nancy McCormick - I have a question for you, Dr. Hilgersom or the team. I'm curious about whether you're actively recruiting from Sierra Nevada Job Core to get students to enroll as they get their high school equivalency or other skill sets out of Job Core. Oftentimes, because many of them are from Las Vegas, they go back to Las Vegas. I'm wondering if we're capturing them somehow.

Dr. Jeffrey Alexander - Yes, we do. We have a strong collaboration.

Dr. Karin Hilgersom - Do you have an interest in, or time, for you or the appropriate staff member of Nevada Works to meet with one of our advisors and just to get a refresh on some of the new programs that we're doing? I would be remiss if I didn't also mention EPIC.

Milton Stewart - Yes, would absolutely love to have that conversation. As part of the strategic planning, I was tasked with trying to assess whether our existing staff had the capacity to really start moving this forward. The board recognized that I needed some help to do this, so I recently hired a strategic projects director who will be my right-hand person for this. I will have her contact you. Any other questions, comments, concerns?

Edward Estipona - Moving on to item nine of the agenda. An update on East View update from Gretchen Sawyer. Gretchen, take it away.

Gretchen Sawyer - Milt, that was excellent presentation, great overview, and we're so excited to work with you on the Jobs Challenge Grant. Milt, thank you.

at UNR we have the same issue, how do we get the students back to the classrooms? The other challenge I see is the nature of students itself has completely changed. Post-COVID the kind of students that are coming in, their temperament of academic readiness is completely different, it's sharp. If we thought two years ago the standards for incoming students

Nancy McCormick - One thing we haven't really shared or talked much about in this forum, and I just want to make sure everyone knows about it, is the challenge that EDAWN CEO made to the community about a year ago to have robotics and coding in every school in the Washoe County School District by the end of 2023. It might be interesting to have someone from Nevada Robotics come and speak at one of these meetings. Nevada Robotics has roughly 580 teachers that have been provided with training for how to integrate robotics into schools. This all goes back to your point, really about the importance of STEM and exposing students to the new realities of what the types of companies are that are located here, and to everyone's point, that the diversity of opportunities and the complexity of some of those types of positions from an engineering standpoint in particular, both mechanical engineering and chemical engineering, as you probably know, but I'll just share that we're really seeing an emergence of a battery technology cluster in Northern Nevada with a number of the companies that are out at the industrial center also currently working with the University of Nevada - Reno. There's never been such a huge transformation of the types of STEM based jobs that are out there and the skills that are going to be needed. We want to make sure that we are helping to support the pipeline at the lowest level possible, in order to meet those needs of the jobs that are here now and in the future.

Marissa Brown - Hearing the challenges that we have that you all know with the workforce, I think it's going to be really important that we engage with the legislature this year to make sure that our legislators hear what that means to all the industries in Nevada. I just wanted to share something with you that the Nevada Hospital Association is doing for K-12. We are partnering with a video company to do short little snippets on TikTok of healthcare careers that don't necessarily require a degree, just a certificate, which is a lot of what TMCC has moved towards. I'm so excited to see the changes in TMCC just since I've been on this committee, and the direction that they're going. That's been really exciting for us, and I just want to also commend Milt and Nevada Works because we've had funding from them since 2010 for workforce grants, and the hospitals have really benefited from those programs. We've been able to provide supportive services for folks and really fill some of the workforce gaps that the hospitals had, and work with TMCC to steer students in those directions. Then we also provide supportive services and work with the employer for those newly graduated nurses, and the employer receives 25% of their salary over a period of 12 weeks to help subsidize that orientation. Great work with Nevada Works, and thank you.

Steve Reid - First of all, I wanted to just comment on the East View project that looks spectacular, and I'm very hopeful that you get the funding you need. Obviously, anything we can do or I could do to help out in any way to bring light to that, I would be happy to do. Second of all, I had heard of Nevada Works before but I didn't really know what it was, so I appreciate that presentation. I guess that's all for me.

