

Nevada System of Higher Education

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MEMORANDUM

To: All NSHE Presidents

From: Thom Reilly, Chancellor

Date: May 14, 2020

Re: Establishment of NSHE COVID Reopening Plan Internal Review Task Force

CC: NSHE Board of Regents

Each of you have been diligently working with your staff and campus community to prepare for summer and fall instruction at your institutions, which may include the resumption of in-person instruction, the continuation of forms of remote instruction, and the return of students and faculty to campus. As you know, we continue to deal with several unknowns and we currently await further direction from the Office of the Governor on exactly when this may occur.

To maintain NSHE system-wide best practices to ensure the continued safety of all students, faculty, and visitors as we prepare to transition to phased re-opening of our campuses, I am establishing a small NSHE COVID Reopening Plan Internal Review Task Force to assist in these efforts. This Task Force is not a public body and is solely intended to internally provide me with executive level review and guidance on *draft* documents. NSHE Chief General Counsel Joe Reynolds will serve as my direct liaison and point of contact on the Task Force. I intend for the Task Force to include the following individuals, each contributing a level of expertise and perspective necessary to the review process:

Crystal Abba, NSHE VC for Academic & Student Affairs (Systemwide Academic)
Patty Charlton, CSN Provost & VP (Community College Academic/Operations)
Andrew Clinger, NSHE Chief Financial Officer (Finance)
Amber Donnelly, GBC Dean Health Sciences & Human Services (Community College Health)
Shannon Ellis, UNR VP Student Services (Student Services)
Adam Garcia, Director of University Southern Command Public Safety (Public Safety)
Chris Gaub, NSHE System Computing Services, Director of Contracts & Budgets (IT)
Dean Gould, Board Chief of Staff and Special Counsel (Board/Legal)
Chris Heavey, UNLV Provost (University Academic)
Dr. Cheryl Hug-English, UNR Director of Student Health Services (University Health)
Joe Reynolds, NSHE Chief General Counsel (Legal)

***Ad hoc* member: Dominique Hall, UNR Student Government President (Student)**

The purpose of the Task Force will be to review reopening plans developed by each institutions to encompass the following three phases: (1) Initial Return to Work of Faculty/Staff, (2) Late Summer Semester, and (3) Fall Semester. Current gubernatorial Phase One directives are set to expire on May 30. In anticipation of Phase Two of directives, I ask that submission of the reopening plans be submitted to my by the following deadlines: **(1) Initial Return to Work of Faculty/Staff (May 27), (2) Late Summer Semester (June 17), and (3) Fall Semester (August 5).** Depending on gubernatorial directions, these deadlines may be adjusted.

Once your plans are drafted at the institution level, please submit to me and I will forward to the Task Force to provide a high-level review to ensure there is both consistent guidance and application of requirements for re-opening, especially in the areas of health, public safety, and legal. Specifically, the plans will be reviewed to ensure compliance with best practices and directives from the Office of the Governor, NVOSHA (where applicable), CDC, and nationally-recognized higher education advisory bodies, such as the ACHA, as well as all other applicable state and federal laws. The more your institution's plans can be vetted at the institution level, the more quickly my review can occur. The Task Force will also provide system-wide guidance on the use of various technologies and testing strategies, such as COVID-19 antibody and thermo detection.

This approach is developed to recognize the unique community and campus needs of each NSHE institution, and to allow each of you certain policy latitude and flexibility as you develop your summer and fall plans, while also providing parameters and oversight at the NSHE level.