



Western Nevada College
FOUNDATION

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WNC FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Video Conference via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86264862256?pwd=cE1NWmhWKzFGSDUwUVNUM0RCR0orUT09>

Meeting ID: 862 6486 2256 and Passcode: b0zZE1

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Board Members Present:	Rochelle Tisdale Larry Goodnight Amanda Jacobson Darcy Houghton Tina Holland Michelle Ketten Robert Ramsdell Jeff Brigger Lane Mills Rick Kohler Lane Mills	Doug Raftery Ronele Dotson Sean Davison Stacy Woodbury Sena Loyd Devin Sizemore Scott Fields Miranda Hoover Kathy Huber-Halbardier
Board Members Via Phone:	N/A	
WNC Staff Present:	Niki Gladys Dr. Solis Dr. Dalpe Jeff Downs	Carol McIntosh Angela Viera Steve Yingling Heather Rikalo
Board Members Absent:	Chuy Ampudia Lisa Granahan	Julie Wood Barbara D'Anne
Proposed Board Members:	Maria Denzler	
Invited Guests:	Regent Carol Del Carlo	
Public Members Present:	N/A	

1. Introductions and Welcome

WNC Foundation Board Chair, Sean Davison called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

2. Public Comment

No public comments were made.

3. July 2020 Board Minutes Approval

Mr. Davison presented the October 2020 WNC Foundation Board Meeting Minutes. Lane Mills motioned to approve, Scott Fields seconded. The minutes were approved as presented.

4. WNC Foundation Board Membership

Mr. Davison introduced new Board Member Candidate Maria Denzler. Ms. Denzler is the daughter of Jack C. Davis, the first President of the College and the namesake of the WNC Observatory. Ms. Denzler introduced herself and described her history with and passion for the College. Sean called for a motion to approve. Rochelle Tisdale motioned to approve, and Kathy Halbardier seconded. The motion passed.

Mr. Davison presented a change in Carol McIntosh's Board membership explaining that she has paused her membership with the Foundation Board to temporarily fill the vacancy left by Development Specialist Tiandra Rushing's departure.

5. Legislative Update

Dr. Kyle Dalpe, WNC Provost and Financial Vice Presented, presented the 2021 Legislative Session overview to the Board.

- The Nevada Legislature website is the hub for obtaining information regarding bills.
- The session begins February 1, 2021 and the budget will be the main focus.
- Dr. Dalpe provided a Legislative Overview and this year will be the first virtual session.
- Dr. Dalpe provided a breakdown of the Senate and Assembly Districts in the 2021 Session Membership.
- Dr. Dalpe is open to speaking with groups and classes about government. Local officials can be identified by clicking on 'Who's Your Legislator'.
- Dr. Dalpe outlined the NSHE Strategic Goals and WNC's base budget overview. We are functioning with a base of \$14.9mm, a reduction of \$2.9mm (-19.7%) and an adjusted base of \$11.9mm. For fiscal year 2022/2023 the base is \$14.8mm, a reduction of \$1.8mm (-12%), and an adjusted base of \$13mm.
- Enhancement Funding: Capacity funding is currently \$300,000 funding jump start college, rural nursing, and access and retention of under-served student populations. The prison education programs are currently funded at \$202,000.

- WNC supports lobbies in favor of the Millennium Scholarship, the Silver State Opportunity Grant and the Nevada Promise Scholarship which help introduce new students to WNC and the entire system.
- The Marlette Hall Renovation planning is well under way. This project was initiated pre-COVID and the funding for design work was approved the last legislative session. Pre-COVID there is a capacity of 120 seats. With COVID capacity is limited to 27 students. Funding for the entire project will be proposed within the next legislative session.
- April 7th is WNC Day. WNC celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.
- Darcy Houghton asked how the Foundation Board can support WNC during the legislative session. Dr. Dalpe said WNC may call on the Foundation Board for testimony supporting education.
- Mr. Davison asked about Governor Sisolak's recent public comments regarding community colleges. Dr. Dalpe said he will defer to Dr. Solis to address this important question.

6. State of the College

Dr. Solis gave an update on the State of the College.

- Dr. Solis thanked the Board for all of their efforts and hard work on behalf of the college. Dr. Solis shared the success of the holiday cards sent out by the Foundation. Nearly \$30,000 was raised from this effort.
- The future of WNC will be about student success, innovation and technology. Full time students have a higher success rate than part time students.
- New student enrollment is down 6.5% for the spring semester. Colleges around the country have been down double digits. Graduation rates have broken the 30% rate. This makes WNC one of the most successful colleges in the county. President Solis has set a goal for the college to reach 40%.
- WNC does not receive its fair share of federal grants – and must ramp up efforts in this area.
- A three-day retreat was held WNC's Leadership Team. The head of each department will be creating S.M.A.R.T. goals. The Leadership Team is focused on keeping WNC sustainable.
- WNC will be opening a transfer office. 70% of WNC students transfer to a four-year institution. The counselors will be trained to assist students with transferring to UNR, UNLV and other four-year institutions.
- WNC will be holding a graduation ceremony. In 2020, WNC was the only college in the state to hold a graduation ceremony.
- WNC is a distribution site for the COVID vaccinations. Dr. Solis and Heather Rikalo will be meeting with the Carson City Mayor on Saturday to support the community and the COVID vaccination distribution process.
- At the next meeting Dr. Solis will be presenting a new organizational structure.
- WNC will be presenting how we are responding to workforce needs in Nevada at a future NNDA meeting.

- The Governor is focusing on preparing Nevada's workforce for the needs of all Nevadans as it relates to high quality jobs. His approach is very specific to community college funding.
- WNC continues to partner with UNR on shared services. UNR has been a supportive partner.
- NSHE has four new Regents. Dr. Solis intends to develop ramp up strong and productive relationships with the new Regents.
- CARES funding will provide \$450,000 in support directly to WNC students. Dr. Dalpe is working to effectively budget the remaining funding to support needs of the college. WNC is cautiously optimistic regarding the Governor's current budget.

7. Regent's Update

Regent Del Carlo, representing district 9, provided an update.

- Regent Del Carlo welcomed Maria Denzler to the Board.
- There are four new Regents and three are from Las Vegas. Their terms are six years with a maximum of two terms.
- The new Chancellor, Dr. Melody Rose, joined NSHE in September 2020 and was appointed to State Higher Education Executive Officers. Dr. Zaragoza, President of College of Southern Nevada, has been appointed to the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities. Regent Del Carlo has been appointed to the Association of Community College Trustees. The primary purpose of these organizations is to lobby in Washington D.C. for funds for community colleges.
- NSHE has been very involved throughout the State in response to COVID. COVID has impacted the suicide rate among children. Isolation has had a direct impact on their mental health. As a result, the Chancellor has initiated a mental health task force within NSHE.
- The Prison Education Program is so critical to the success of our workforce in Nevada. This program is reducing recidivism. Regent Del Carlo is a major proponent of this program.
- The Board of Regents take public comments from constituents very seriously. The Board's work is impactful with a goal of giving students every chance to succeed.
- The Legislative Session will be focused on the budget. Andrew Clinger, NSHE Chief Financial Officer, will be representing NSHE during the current legislative session. He is very accessible.
- The Governor will be proposing separating three of the community colleges, including WNC, from NSHE and creating a governing board. This is part of an initiative to completely reform higher education. Regent Del Carlo referenced the report <https://goed.nv.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Nevada-Recovery-and-Resiliency-Plan-FINAL.pdf>.
- Regent Del Carlo is always available to the Foundation Board and encouraged Board members to visit the NSHE website which offers a wealth of information.

8. Finance Committee Update

Mr. Scott Fields presented financials for FY 2020 Q4 and FY 2020 YTD. Scott presented the Q4 Income Statement and Balance Sheet. Scott pointed out event fundraising is down year over year due to state restriction on event attendance, especially the Reach for the Stars Gala. Overall revenue is up due to an increased focus on grant writing and investment management.

9. Scholarship Update

Ms. Carol McIntosh presented a scholarship update.

- The application process for the 2021-2022 academic year is currently open. Ms. McIntosh has spoken with several professors encouraging them to share with their students that the application portal is now open and the benefits associated with receiving a scholarship. The application can be easily accessed by going to www.wnc.edu/scholarship.

10. Advancement Committee Updates

Ms. Gladys presented advancement committee updates.

- **Fall Virtual Trivia**
 - WNCF hosted a trivia night December 10, 2020.
 - Waddell and Reed and Mayor Lori Bagwell sponsored the event.
 - We raised approximately \$2,500.
- **Holiday Cards and Notecards with Giving Opportunities**
 - WNCF worked with the Art Dept. to design this year's holiday card. This was sent out with a return donation card to over 1,000 community members. Return donations came in at nearly \$30,000 including a \$20,000 donation from the Straubel Foundation.
 - Submissions for the holiday card were fantastic. Because there were so many beautiful submissions for the holiday card, WNC Foundation chose 5 pieces and created packets of notecards that are being sold on the WNC.edu website for a \$10.00 donation. Kolo 8 covered the event as well. To date we have raised \$500 in notecard sales. To date we have raised \$500 in notecard sales.
- **We are Western Magazine**
 - Doug Raftery and Maria Denzler have volunteered to participate in creating the magazine.
- **Higher Education in Prison Program is hosting an event on February 4, 2021 via Zoom: College Behind Bars.**
 - Ms. Gladys invited the Board members to attend and support our students at this event.
 - Higher Education in Prison is also hosting an art show & auction featuring artwork created by incarcerated students. This show will be in March with more information to come.
- **Soroptimist Women Helping Women Recognition Event**
 - Niki Gladys and Lupe Ramirez will be honored on February 18, 2021. Ms. Gladys would be honored if any members of the Board would like to attend.

11. Grant Update

Ms. Gladys presented an update on grants. As of today, \$14,000,000 has been requested in grant funding. \$4,000,000 is pending and \$3,000,000 has been awarded. This includes a recently awarded \$941,000 grant from the William N. Pennington Foundation for the renovation of the Fallon Science Lab.

12. New Business

There was no new business.

13. Public Comment

Rochelle Tisdale thanked WNC and WNCF for the funding to purchase text books for the Fallon Library to be used by the Oasis Academy.

14. Adjourn Meeting

Mr. Davison adjourned meeting at 9:53 a.m.

The next WNC Foundation Board meeting is Thursday, April 22, 2021