



Western Nevada College
FOUNDATION

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WNC FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, October 21, 2021

Dini Library and Video Conference via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting <https://wnc-edu.zoom.us/j/85637036634>

Meeting ID: 856 3703 6634 and Passcode: 819007

Board Members Present:

Sean Davison	Scott Fields
Michelle Ketten	Ronele Dotson
Amanda Jacobson	Jeff Brigger
Rick Kohler	Miranda Hoover
Tina Holland	Barbara D'Anneo
Maria Denzler	Devin Sizemore
Robert Ramsdell	

Board Members Via Zoom:

Kathy Halbardier	Rochelle Tisdale
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WNC Staff Present:

Niki Gladys	Carol McIntosh
President Vincent Solis	Dr. Kyle Dalpe
Rachael Schneider	Steve Yingling
Lauren Slemenda	Dr. Rebecca Bevans
Ms. Rachelle Bassen	Mr. Eric York

Board Members Absent:

Lane Mills	Darcy Houghton
Christie Asis	Julie Wood
Sena Loyd	Stacy Woodbury

Proposed Board Members:

N/A

Public Members Present:

N/A

1. Introductions and Welcome

WNC Foundation Board, Board Chair, Sean Davison, called the meeting to order at 8:14 a.m.

2. Public Comment

No public comments were made.

3. July 2021 Board Minutes Approval

Mr. Sean Davison presented the July 22, 2021 Western Nevada College (WNC) Foundation Board Meeting Minutes. Barbara D'Anneo motioned to approve, Devin Sizemore seconded. The minutes were approved as presented.

4. 2020-2021 FY Review Results (Mike Aurnague)

Mr. Davison introduced Mr. Mike Aurnague, CPA, from Pangborn & Co., LTD Certified Public Accountants. Pangborn & Co., LTD reviewed the financial statements of Western Nevada College Foundation, as of June 30, 2021. Mr. Aurnague, CPA, presented the Board with an Independent Accountant's Report dated September 17, 2021. A copy of the financial statements was provided to the Board. Based on the review, Pangborn & Co., LTD is not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Mr. Aurnague reviewed the Governance letter summarizing the financial statements and review. Mr. Aurnague confirmed he is working on completing the annual required 990 form and will file an extension on behalf of Western Nevada College Foundation.

5. WNC Foundation Board Membership

Mr. Davison introduced Rachael Schneider, Community and Rural Outreach Coordinator and newly hired WNCF employee. Mr. Davison shared Ms. Schneider's bio.

Mr. Davison introduced Lauren Slemenda, Continuing Education Coordinator and newly hired WNCF employee. Mr. Davison shared Ms. Slemenda's bio.

Mr. Davison presented the Board members that have resigned from the WNC Foundation Board. Mr. Doug Raftery has moved for his career and resigned his position on the Board. Mr. Larry Goodnight is no longer able to serve and has resigned his position on the Board.

Mr. Davison proposed to the Board creating a way to honor past Board members.

6. Approval of New Co Vice Chair Candidate

Mr. Davison introduced Tina Holland as proposed Co Vice Chair of the Western Nevada College Foundation Board. Mr. Davison shared Ms. Holland's bio. Mr. Davison called for a motion to approve. Barbara D'Anneo motioned to approve, and Miranda Hoover seconded. The motion passed.

7. State of the College

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

- There is new guidance and policies from the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) requiring students to get the COVID-19 vaccination. More students are enrolling in online classes for the spring semester.
- All employees are required to get the COVID-19 vaccination. There are 115 employees that have not received the vaccination. It is anticipated that 5-8% of the current workforce will not receive the vaccination and their employment will be terminated as a result. This may cause in a disruption of service. Replacing employees at current market rates places additional financial pressures on the budget.
- Employees are able to apply for religious and medical exemptions from the COVID-19 vaccination requirements. A committee comprised of college employees has been created to evaluate these applications.
- Dr. Solis and Dr. Dalpe will be attending a conference at Arizona State University (ASU) to learn more about offering programs online.
- Ms. Angela Holt is now the Diversity Officer, following the retirement of Lupe Ramirez.
- A CDL program is now being offered at the college as a result of the recent demand for truck drivers. A POST program is being developed for police officers.
- Dr. Robert Morin has passed away and Western Nevada College is considering ways to honor him.
- Western Nevada College (WNC) will be participating in Nevada Day. Dr. Solis invited the Board to walk in the parade with the WNC float.
- Dr. Solis and Deb Conrad presented on WNC's Higher Education and Prison Program at a conference in San Diego.
- The high demand for employees creates an opportunity to retrain displaced workers whose jobs have been eliminated. There is a shift in the types of credits that are being offered in higher education. There is a high demand for skilled laborers and as a result there is an increase in the salaries for the instructors that teach the courses that train for these skillsets. Next year student tech fees may need to be increased to supplement the increase in expenses.
- WNC is the only institution in the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) this current semester to have increased enrollment, with an overall increase of 2%.
- Dual enrollment has increased 37% from the previous year.
- The State Treasurer, Zach Conine, visited the campus and reviewed the requests for the American Rescue Plan. Western Nevada College (WNC) is looking to expand the service area into Fernley. WNC is looking to ramp up the facilities in Fallon. WNC has absorbed Mineral County as a part of the service area.

- Dr. Solis announced he is interviewing and may be accepting a role in Texas. The opportunity could come within the next 30 days.

8. Finance Committee Update

Secretary/Treasurer Mr. Scott Fields encouraged the Board to review the Reviewed Financial Statements as presented by Mr. Aurnague. Mr. Fields acknowledged the members of the WNC Foundation Finance Committee and the Financial Advisors for the investment portfolio. The Finance Committee meets quarterly to review the financials of the WNC Foundation accounts, review the investment portfolio with the Financial Advisors, discuss grants and donations.

Mr. Fields presented cash balances have increased 17% as compared to FY21 and +125% as compared to September 2020 as a result of an increase in grants and endowments received. Western Nevada College Foundation (WNCF) awarded nearly \$700,000 in scholarships in FY21 and is on track to meet or exceed this in FY22. Mr. Fields shared the success of the golf tournament held in September 2021. Mr. Fields shared the accounts are performing well.

Mr. Davison presented the investment portfolio is up 6% calendar year to date. Mr. Davison complimented the performance of Washoe Wealth Advisors, the WNC investment advisors.

9. What Have We Learned? Student Experiences through COVID-19

Mr. Davison introduced Dr. Rebecca Bevans, Professor, Biology, and shared her bio.

Dr. Bevans presented the pandemic has changed education forever. Students in K-12 are able to choose options for their education. Homeschool has increased from 30 to 60 students. Washoe County School District lost 7,000 students (3% of the population), K-12, for the most recent academic year. These are students that could be captured by Western Nevada College (WNC). There is a hard dollar cost to families and is not free like public education. Students are served from WNC's entire footprint. These are students that do not do as well in a traditional school environment. Dr. Bevans has created a community within the Homeschool students so that they can know each other.

The traditional college student population has changed as well. Student lifestyles have changed and are adapting their education to accommodate their way of living. Enrollment for women has decreased as a result of familial obligations. There is an opportunity to engage students from outside of WNC's footprint and work is being done to increase the marketing and awareness for our Homeschool program. There is a great opportunity to create scholarships for Homeschool students. They are not eligible for FAFSA because they do not have a high school diploma. Co Vice Chair, Michelle Ketten, said she would like to create a scholarship for Homeschool students. Ms. Ketten shared as a mother of Jump Start students she is passionate about alternate sources of education for all students. She saw her children thrive as a friend, student, family member and teammate as a result of the Jump Start program at WNC.

Faculty has learned they need to provide flexibility to their students because of the demands of students caring for sick family members, working and caring for themselves. Students have adapted to online classes requiring the education system to accommodate their needs. Students are struggling with adjusting to the requirements of wearing a mask in class. It is more difficult to read facial expressions and to connect with their peers. Instructors are increasing their interactions with their students through emails, comments on their assignments and personal interactions in the classroom. Faculty is doing a fantastic job in connecting with their students. Instructors are learning to present in flex classes and providing students the information they need to be successful.

10. Roundtable Discussion

The Board engaged in a robust discussion about the impacts of COVID-19 on education.

11. COVID-19 Video Project and WNC Testing Site

Mr. Davison introduced Ms. Rachele Bassen, Professor, Biology, and Eric York, Director of Strategic COVID Response, and shared their bios.

Ms. Bassen presented as a result of the mandatory COVID-19 vaccines she is creating a video series in support and education of the vaccines. Ms. Bassen wants students to have information before making the decisions that cause them to drop out of school. Ms. Bassen has observed her students experience a very hard time as a result of caring for those who are ill. Ms. Bassen is interviewing a variety of individuals including students, instructors and members of the community. She is in the process of collecting additional information from the Nursing Department at Western Nevada College. Ms. Bassen is working to compile the videos and present them on the website and social media. Over 70% of students and faculty have been vaccinated with very little side effects. Ms. Bassen shared one of the videos she has created. The efficacy rate of the vaccine is unbelievably high. It is a renaissance of science and breakthroughs in medical technology. Pure influence is a significant factor in the decisions we make. Ms. Bassen's goal is that students will be able to influence each other to make evidenced based decision rather than emotional decisions. Dr. Bevans presented that No Child Left Behind has decreased Millennials' critical thinking skills.

Dr. Bevans shared that good science research changes frequently. Scientific research is a healthy process. Science that should be challenged is science that is outdated and has not been evaluated in years.

Mr. Eric York presented Free COVID-19 Testing will be administered on the Western Nevada Campus (WNC) for the entire community. Access to instant testing is decreasing due to increased demand. There is not currently a solution for rapid testing. Mr. York asked the Board if they, or the organizations they are associated with, would be interested in accessing Perkin-Elmer PCR testing offered at WNC and administered by Color Health. The service will be provided for free to participating organizations and the people being

tested. Insurance reporting, billing or administration will not be needed. The primary criteria for participating in this endeavor is the Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) of the community needs to be greater than 0.5. Anyone in the community can be tested. There is no limit to the number of partner sites, if desired.

12. Advancement Committee Updates

Ms. Niki Gladys presented the Golf for Education Tournament was again very successful and revenue grew year over year. Ms. Gladys presented the Profit and Loss Statement from FY21 and compared to FY20. Gross revenues are \$41,677 with a net profit of \$23,868. The profit margin is 57%, which is fantastic for an event.

Ms. Gladys presented Thanks For Giving will be held on Saturday, November 13, 2021. The event will be held in the Dini Library from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. It will be a kickoff to the holiday season with a live band, appetizers and cocktails. The purpose of the event is to thank the supporters of Western Nevada College for making this year a huge success.

13. Grant and Scholarship Update

Ms. Gladys presented a new \$500,000 grant should be approved by the Board of Examiners in early November. The grant will provide wrap around services for the recipients. Ms. Gladys thanked NV Energy and Board Member, Jeff Brigger, for the \$25,000 grant for the Diversity Center. There is still a \$3 million pledge from the William N. Pennington Foundation for the building in Fernley. Ms. Gladys worked with West Hills Community College on a National Science Foundation grant. If approved, we will receive \$325,000. Michelle Hale with Greater Nevada Credit Union is writing a grant for the Food Pantry on behalf of Western Nevada College

Ms. Carol McIntosh presented a scholarship update. Nearly all of the scholarships have been awarded with the exception of the William N. Pennington Career and Technical Education scholarship. Half of the funding available for the fall semester has been awarded for the William N. Pennington Career and Technical Education Scholarship. Ms. McIntosh shared the strategy with the Board for awarding the remaining funding by the end of the fall semester.

14. Board Recognition

Ms. McIntosh recognized the Board members who have birthdays in October.

15. New Business

There was no new business.

16. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

17. Adjourn Meeting

Mr. Davison adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

The next WNC Foundation Board meeting is Thursday, January 20, 2021.