
INSTITUTIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

Friday, May 7, 2021

9:00 am to Noon

Truckee Meadows Community College

via Zoom

1. Roll Call:

IAC Members: Vice Chair Nancy McCormick, Council Members: Dr. Sesh Commuri, Dr. Mindy Lokshin, Joseph Nannini, John Thurman, Marissa Brown

Guests: NSHE Regent Laura Perkins, Assistant Vice Chancellor Craig von Collenberg

Ex Officio: Alyssa Fromelius, Student Government Association (SGA) President; YeVonne Allen, Faculty Senate Chair; Katt Warner, Classified Council Representative; Amy Cavanaugh, Nevada Faculty Alliance Representative

Administrators/Faculty/Staff: President Karin Hilgersom, Vice President of Student Services and Diversity Estela Gutierrez, Associate Vice President Elena Bubnova, Dean of Technical Sciences Barbara Walden, Dean of Life Sciences, Allied Health, and Public Safety Dr. Julie Ellsworth, Dean of Math and Physical Science Anne Flesher, Interim Executive Director of Facilities and Capital Planning, Dr. Ayodele Akinola, Interim Executive Director of Budget and Planning, Elise Bunkowski, Academic Advisement Director, Dr. Natalie Brown, Admissions and Records Director, Andy Hughes, Career Hub Manager Sidney Sullivan, Executive Assistant and Recording Secretary Lisa Farmer, Special Assistant to the President Dana Ryan, and Administrative Assistant Valerie Kelley

Absent: Chair BJ North, Council Members: Debra Biersdorff, Robert Chisel, Kris McLean, and Steve Reid

2. Public Comment

Vice Chair McCormick called for public comment, there was none. Public comment was closed.

3. Approval of Minutes

a) February 5, 2021

This item was heard after item 4.

Council Member Brown made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Council Member Nannini seconded the motion. The motion was APPROVED by a vote of 6-0-5 North, Biersdorf, Chisel, McLean, Reid absent.

4. President's Update

This item was heard after agenda item 2.

a) Commencement Ceremonies

President Hilgersom reported that the TMCC Commencement Committee came up with a way to hold graduation but avoid a large public gathering. The week of May 17, there will be ceremonies for each of the five divisions, one on each day. Students and their families will drive thru a designated area, then students will exit their vehicle, walk across a stage and receive their diploma. Both graduates from 2020 and 2021 were invited to participate.

b) Strategic Master Plan

Dr. Hilgersom shared the update to TMCC's Strategic Master Plan was approved by the Board of Regents. The college developed some realistic Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and ways to measure them. Once finalized at the Planning Council meeting, the final plan will be posted on the TMCC website.

c) Partnerships with NSHE Institutions

President Hilgersom showed a spreadsheet (Attachment A) that is a living document that identifies all the different collaborations and partnerships occurring at the college. This will be shared at the next Board of Regents meeting as a part of TMCC's performance metrics report.

5. Update

This item was heard after item 3.

a) Vice Chancellor of Community Colleges Update

Assistant Vice Chancellor Craig von Collenberg provided the update from the Vice Chancellor's office. Mr. Nate Mackinnon has left NSHE. The position has been restructured. There will be a Vice Chancellor of Workforce Development & Chief Innovation Officer, filled by Mr. Caleb Cage who is returning to NSHE after working with the Governor's office during the pandemic. The SANDI grant Coordinator had been hired and would start May 17, 2021. She will be coordinating the actions under the SANDI grant from all the institutions, will perform data collection, and be the main point of contact for OWINN. NSHE was doing some background work on a grant provided ACCT related to SNAP/EBT (the State's nutrition program) providers, offering training. NSHE has a short-term grant for the Workforce Innovation Network that centralizes on the Governor's proposal related to Job Corps.

b) Faculty Senate Update

Faculty Senate Chair YeVonne Allen highlighted some activities from the written report provided in the packet. Chair Allen said the Faculty Senate has been very vocal with the Legislature and Board of Regents to ensure faculty voices are being heard on issues such as benefits, furloughs, and the biennial budget. The Faculty Senate amended their bylaws to eliminate gender-specific pronouns and replace them with the singular, third-person "they". The Salary and Benefits Committee is analyzing the current merit system. If and when merit comes back to NSHE, they want to have a model in place.

c) Classified Council Update

A report was provided in the meeting materials. Katt Warner was having audio/video issues.

d) Student Government Association Update

SGA President Alyssa Fromelius highlighted some items from the written report provided in the meeting materials. The new SGA President for the next academic year would be Darin Richards. SGA was working on a project to put a Game Room in half of the existing Bookstore space. They are also working with Auxiliary Services to offer healthier options in the vending machines at all TMCC sites. SGA continues to advocate for the use of Open Educational Resources (OER) and is discussing a resolution that would ask Institutional Research to conduct a study on how many classes are currently using OER, as well as creating a better definition of what OER is. President Fromelius has been working with the Associate Vice President & Government Affairs Officer Elena Bubnova to create a document providing information to students on how to interact with Legislators.

6. Presentation: Governor's Office of Workforce Innovation (OWINN)

a) Understanding OWINN's role, purpose, and connection to TMCC

OWINN Executive Director Isla Young gave a PowerPoint presentation (Attachment B) to introduce OWINN to the Council share their strategies:

- a) Assess Workforce Policies at the State Level and Provide Strategic Support and Direction for the Implementation of the Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA, 2014)
- b) Design Career Pathways
- c) Scale Registered Apprenticeship and Other Forms of Work-Based Learning in Existing and Emerging Industries
- d) Leverage Labor-Market and Workforce Data
- e) Validate Industry-Recognized Credentials

Director Young shared current opportunities for collaboration and successful grant applications. Mr. Zachary Heit, OWINN, provided an overview of NPower, the Nevada P-20 to Workforce Research Data System, a state longitudinal database system that links and matches data across agencies to create a longitudinal record for research analysis. The system partners are NSHE, the Nevada Department of Education, the Department of Employment Training and Rehabilitation (DETR), and the State of Nevada Adult Education. The data and dashboards are publicly available and can be provided to Institutional Research (IR) depts at the colleges and universities.

Ms. Amy Fleming, OWINN, was working with employers to learn about the demand and needs of the industry sector council and brings partners to the table to find opportunities to collaborate. Through outreach and messaging, OWINN wants to make sure that information about programs such as TMCC's new IT program, reaches the right audience. Director Young added that there were funds in the SANDI grant for outreach, OWINN would be reaching to business and community leaders to collect input on the best way to get the message out about available programs and opportunities.

Vice Chair McCormick asked if there was funding available to promote the skills match program statewide. Director Young said there wasn't a specific budget for established for that reason, but the project SANDI grant funds are all-encompassing. President Hilgersom thanked Director Young and everyone from OWINN for attending the meeting and providing such an informative presentation.

7. Presentation: Legislative Outlook for TMCC and NSHE

a) Update on the legislative budget process and potential impacts to community colleges and TMCC

Associate Vice President and Government Liaison Officer Elena Bubnova gave a PowerPoint presentation (Attachment C) focused on NSHE legislative priorities, bills being tracked, advocacy, communication, and shared some important dates and deadlines.

The NSHE legislative priorities include:

- a) NSHE Budget
- b) Student Financial Aid Programs
- c) Faculty and Staff Compensation
- d) PEBP Benefits
- e) Community College Governance

Discussion followed regarding how future funding relates to current enrollment and the basics of the NSHE funding formula. The base of TMCC's state revenue budget is calculated using Weighted Student Credit Hours (WSCH). This year is a snapshot year for TMCC, which will determine the state funding for the next biennium. TMCC was working hard to get the message out about training opportunities and program offerings to ensure enrollment stability to maintain state funding.

8. Listening Session:

a) Pandemic Positives & b) IAC Council Member Take-Aways

SGA President Alyssa Fromelius said before the pandemic, she hadn't considered how many people preferred asynchronous classes, particularly among older students.

Faculty Senate Chair YeVonne Allen said faculty were excited to keep the WebLive modality, which was introduced because of the pandemic. It's a synchronous class held through Canvas at a specific time and day. Faculty and students are face-to-face through the use of video conferencing platforms.

Dr. Dana Ryan gave a brief overview of the new software development program at TMCC, in which courses are all offered virtually on a fast track process. The first cohort of 17 students will finish the program in six to eight weeks. Vice Chair McCormick reminded everyone to continue posting job opportunities and apprenticeships with TMCC to capture some of these students.

Council Member Brown shared that healthcare has been impacted hard due to the pandemic. She was seeing how important it was to encourage mental wellness and offer programs for support. The amount of additional support needed to help healthcare workers made a profound impact on her and she sees it continuing in the future. The use of telehealth has dramatically increased and improved access to care.

Vice Chair McCormick thanked Council Member John Thurman for his service to the IAC. This was his last meeting, as he would be retiring from Nevadaworks at the end of July.

Council Member Thurman said as an original member of the IAC, he was grateful for the opportunity to be involved with TMCC. The pandemic changed the way people shop and learn. As we move forward, it will be interesting to see how blended models develop to keep the positives found during this switch to remote and online learning with hands-on interactions and face-to-face services.

Sidney Sullivan, Manager, TMCC Career Center, shared it was interesting that employers were shifting from looking to fill positions to wanting partnerships with the college. They want to know where the students are, what they are learning, want to talk to the instructors, and request to present in classrooms to attract students.

Council Member Nannini was seeing newfound access to education, particularly for educators in rural areas within the state. It's opened his eyes to a lot of opportunity, especially for those in the education sector.

President Hilgersom extended her appreciation to Council Member for his participation on the IAC and for being a reliable community partner.

9. New Business

There was no new business

10. Public Comment

Vice Chair McCormick called for public comment, there was none. Public comment was closed.

11. Adjourn

The Meeting Adjourned at 11:50 am.