



Institutional Advisory Council Activities

BIENNIAL REPORT

March 2023 to December 2024



Institutional Advisory Council Activities Biennial Report

GBC IAC Committee Vision Statement

The Institutional Advisory Council advocates for rural higher education, community engagement, and industry partnerships throughout Greater Nevada, advising the GBC President and staff to expand support, enhance student opportunities, and serve the community's educational and cultural needs.

Executive Summary

In 2023 and 2024, the Great Basin College (GBC) Institutional Advisory Council (IAC) played a pivotal role in shaping the college's strategic direction, particularly in expanding programs, securing funding, and addressing regional workforce needs. The members of the IAC comprising local industry leaders, educators, and community representatives served as crucial advisors and advocates for GBC, contributing valuable insights into the development of academic programs and initiatives.

The IAC's role included reviewing and approving key decisions such as the launch of new programs, the expansion of existing ones, and the allocation of funds. Members provided feedback on the alignment of GBC's offerings with workforce demands, ensuring that the college's programs were responsive to the needs of local industries and students. Their input was instrumental in the approval of programs like the dual enrollment certificates in mining, geology, metallurgy, and the expansion of medical assisting, phlebotomy, and CNA programs.

IAC members also supported the college's efforts to strengthen partnerships with local school districts and industries, advocating for greater collaboration to enhance dual enrollment and career and technical education (CTE) programs. Through their connections and expertise, council members helped secure significant funding from both public and private sources, including multi-million dollar grants for workforce development, healthcare education, and the creation of new facilities such as the Innovation and Technology Center.



Institutional Advisory Council Activities Biennial Report

Executive Summary (Continued)

The IAC provided guidance on key community issues as well, emphasizing the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion in GBC's programs and initiatives. Members also played an active role in advocating for legislative support, ensuring that GBC received necessary resources to address workforce shortages, particularly in fields like nursing, diesel mechanics, and solar installation.

Council members were instrumental in overseeing the leadership transition at GBC, supporting President Joyce Helens' retirement and the smooth transition to Interim President Dr. Amber Donnelly. Their collective expertise and guidance were crucial in ensuring the college's continued success and in addressing challenges such as faculty recruitment, regional housing, broadband, and childcare issues.

Overall, the IAC members provided invaluable leadership and strategic direction, helping GBC grow and adapt to the evolving educational and workforce needs of the region. Their involvement ensured that GBC remained a vital resource for both students and local industries, with a continued focus on community engagement, program expansion, and workforce development.





Institutional Advisory Council Activities Biennial Report

Committee Members



John Tierney (Elko) - Chair

After teaching high school in California's East Bay for six years, John moved to Elko, Nevada, in 1989 and spent 28 years teaching middle school history and civics. He was named Nevada State Teacher of the Year in 2016 and California Casualty Teacher of Excellence in 2017. As an NEA Global Fellow, he traveled to China and earned a master's in Instructional Design Theory from American Intercontinental University in 2004. He also attended summer sessions at Harvard University and was named an Annenberg Fellow in 2007. For 14 years, he facilitated graduate education courses for PBS TeacherLine. After retiring in 2017, he helped establish the Nevada Superintendents Teacher Advisory Cabinet and a statewide network of Nevada State Teachers of the Year. He joined the IAC in 2018, became council chair in 2019, and continues to serve in that role.



Terri Clark (Elko)

Terri Clark is the director of medical group services for Northeastern Nevada Regional Hospital and previously served as its director of growth and outreach for five years. With over 30 years of leadership experience in healthcare and education, she has spearheaded initiatives like the Miles for Smiles dental program and the Telehealth Mental Health Counseling Initiative, both recognized for their impact. In 2023, Clark received Lifepoint Health's national Mercy Award for her compassionate service. Prior to her work in the healthcare sector, Terri founded the Communities in Schools (CIS) program in Northeastern Nevada and later served as its national vice president of Field Operations. Deeply committed to rural Nevada, she serves on multiple nonprofit boards including, the Flight Alliance of NE Nevada and the Sunrise Rotary Club.



Caroline McIntosh (Ely)

Caroline McIntosh serves as a rural business development advisor with the Nevada Small Business Development Center in Ely. She is a White Pine County native and retired Nevada educator with a diverse career in K-12 education, serving as a teacher and principal at Mt. High School at Ely State Prison—Nevada's only maximum-security institution—assistant superintendent of the White Pine County School District, superintendent of the Lyon County School District, and head of school at Nevada Virtual Academy. Passionate about economic development and education, she remains active as a community volunteer and board member.



Institutional Advisory Council Activities Biennial Report

Committee Members (Continued)



Barbara Gallagher Kidwell (Elko)

Barbara Gallagher-Kidwell began her legal career in San Francisco where she represented the Kellogg Corporation and numerous businesses in international disputes. In 1994, she returned to Nevada and joined former Judge Thomas Stringfield's law firm in Elko. She has since represented clients in both state and federal courts, including the Nevada Supreme Court. In 2008, she established her own law office before joining Kidwell & Gallagher, Ltd. in 2010, where she practices personal injury, criminal, and family law. A member of the American Association of Justice and the Nevada Justice Association, she has been highly rated for legal ability and ethics by Martindale-Hubbell. Named a "Top Lawyer in Nevada" by The Legal Network in 2013, she was also the first woman admitted to Elko's Rotary Club International. Dedicated to ensuring access to justice, she devotes significant time to pro bono work for the underserved.



Billie Crapo (Elko)

Billie Crapo was appointed CEO of the Elko Area Chamber in 2016 after serving in multiple roles, including membership director and event and sales director. With over twelve years of experience, she leads a small staff and collaborates with the board of directors to develop long-term strategies for the area's largest business organization. She oversees finances, government relations, education, and member services, dedicating her career to fostering community pride and economic growth. Passionate about her community, Billie serves on the boards of Friends for Life, the Elko Convention and Visitor Authority Marketing Committee, the Government Affairs Committee, and the Elko Lions Club, while also volunteering for various nonprofits.



Institutional Advisory Council Activities Biennial Report

Committee Members (Continued)



Stacy Smith (Pahrump)

Stacy Smith has served as the CEO of Nye Communities Coalition (NyECC) since 2003, expanding it from a substance abuse prevention initiative to a multi-division nonprofit organization addressing wellness, economic development, food security, transportation, and workforce training. Under her leadership, NyECC has secured multi-millions in grant funding to serve multiple rural frontier counties. A licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselor and supervisor, Stacy serves on multiple boards including the Southern Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board, Desert View Hospital, and the Nevada Statewide Coalition Partnership. Her contributions have earned her numerous awards, including the Nevada Hero of the Day (2020) and the Butch Harper Act of Kindness Award (2017).



Dave Roden (Winnemucca)

Dave Roden is a retired financial services professional who held management roles with Bank of America, and U.S. Bank. A dedicated community advocate, he has served on various boards supporting economic development and education, including the Humboldt County Library Board, the Rural Nevada Development Corporation, and the Tri-County Development Authority. A long-time supporter of Great Basin College, Dave joined the GBC Foundation Board of Trustees in 1994. Since then, he has expanded his service to the GBC Institutional Advisory Council (IAC), offering valuable insights into the needs of Winnemucca and its surrounding communities.



Michelle Hammond-Allen (Winnemucca)

Michelle, a fifth-generation rural Nevadan, lives in Winnemucca. She holds dual B.A. degrees in Natural Resources and Social Sciences from Great Basin College, a master's in Agriculture from Colorado State University, and is a NSHE Board of Regents Scholar. In 2022, Michelle began her economic development role with Humboldt County and the City of Winnemucca and serves as director of the Nevada 95-80 Regional Development Authority. With a background in marketing, special events, public land policy, and resource management, she also has extensive experience in the nonprofit sector, including grant management, administration, and fundraising. Michelle has served on the Winnemucca Domestic Violence Services Board since 2007 and is a proud Rotarian.



Institutional Advisory Council Activities Biennial Report

GBC IAC Meeting Summaries 2023-2024

March 16, 2023

During the March meeting, the Great Basin College Institutional Advisory Council (IAC) approved the minutes from the November 2022 meeting and celebrated the college's Hispanic student enrollment reaching 25%. The council approved several new programs, including dual enrollment certificates in mining, geology, and metallurgy, as well as an instrumentation program in Winnemucca to support Lithium Nevada. Additionally, they expanded medical assisting, phlebotomy, and CNA programs with grant funding. Fundraising efforts for the remodeling of the former National Guard Armory into a Mining Center were initiated, and the council recommended strengthening partnerships with local school districts to enhance dual enrollment and career and technical education (CTE) programs. They also emphasized aligning GBC's programs with workforce needs and discussed regional issues such as housing, broadband, and childcare in White Pine County. A new Teachers Conference was scheduled for September 2023, with a stipend for participants.

May 18, 2023

In the May meeting, the council approved the minutes from the March meeting and re-elected John Tierney as Chair and Dave Roden as Vice-Chair for the 2023-2024 term. They also approved the meeting dates for the upcoming year. A major focus was the continued expansion of workforce development programs, with approval for the continued success of the Medical Assisting/Phlebotomy/EKG program, which had gained popularity. The council discussed the hiring of a new instructor for the Business department and highlighted GBC's efforts to apply for grants to fund new skill certificate programs in Early Childhood Development. Dual enrollment programs were a key priority, with funding being sought to further expand them in collaboration with local school districts. The council also supported grant applications for various workforce development programs, including early childhood development and medical assisting.



Institutional Advisory Council Activities Biennial Report

GBC IAC Meeting Summaries 2023-2024 (Continued)

September 21, 2023

During the September meeting, the IAC approved the minutes from the May meeting and discussed several significant program launches and expansions. The council highlighted the upcoming launch of the respiratory therapy program in Fall 2024, supported by \$2 million in funding, as well as plans for new simulation pods and an emergency dispatching certificate program. The restart of the diesel program in Ely after a two-year hiatus was also discussed, along with partnerships with Tesla, Southwest Gas, and Empire Cat for training. Additionally, the council approved \$442,000 in new funding for the Winnemucca Instrumentation Technology program. The meeting also focused on securing grant funding, including \$400,000 from Good Jobs Northern Nevada for library testing pods and \$500,000 for workforce development initiatives. The council emphasized addressing labor force shortages in critical fields like nursing and diesel mechanics in rural areas, and they advocated for workforce investments through legislative initiatives.

November 16, 2023

The November meeting began with the approval of the minutes from the September meeting. The council discussed a range of program expansions, including the restart of the diesel program in Ely and the launch of new programs funded by grants, such as the Paraprofessional Certificate program. The council also focused on strengthening dual enrollment initiatives, with \$154,500 awarded to students and new outreach strategies to boost participation. They approved a new Bachelor of Science in Diagnostic Medical Sonography program, and nursing programs in Elko, Ely, and Pahrump were expanded using \$500,000 from SB 375. The council also supported grant applications for various initiatives, including a \$293,000 DETR grant for the Paraprofessional Certificate program and a \$356,000 Teach Nevada scholarship. Workforce and industry collaborations were a key focus, with efforts to address shortages in solar installation, diesel mechanics, and nursing, particularly in rural areas. The council also noted the challenges of faculty recruitment and emphasized diversity and inclusion efforts, including a 38% Hispanic enrollment in GBC's nursing programs.



Institutional Advisory Council Activities Biennial Report

GBC IAC Meeting Summaries 2023-2024 (Continued)

February 15, 2024

The council deferred approval of the minutes from the November meeting to the next meeting, but continued to focus on expanding programs and securing funding. Key highlights included the planned expansion of the Medical Assisting, Phlebotomy, and EKG program to Winnemucca and Pahrump in Fall 2024, as well as the utilization of SB 375 funding to hire additional nursing faculty and support pre-nursing students in Pahrump. The council also discussed new grant-funded skill certificates in Early Childhood, Dispatch, Technical Writing, Computer Science, Data Science, and Geology Technician. Workforce development remained a priority, with the council highlighting ongoing efforts to support the Mining Center of Excellence. The meeting also touched on leadership changes, with President Joyce Helens introducing Dr. Amber Donnelly as her successor, ensuring a smooth leadership transition. The council's advocacy for increased funding for higher education and workforce training was also emphasized.

April 11, 2024

In the April meeting, the council approved the minutes from both the November and February meetings. They also reviewed the meeting schedule for 2024-2025, setting new dates and continuing leadership under John Tierney and Dave Roden. The council discussed several new certificate programs, including Life in the 21st Century, Introduction to Information Systems, and Personal Finance. The Medical Assisting Program's expansion to Pahrump was also highlighted, with the first cohort set to graduate in May 2024. The council approved fundraising efforts by nursing students, who raised significant amounts in Elko and Winnemucca, and they continued to focus on aligning GBC's workforce development programs with diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives. Community engagement was also a key topic, with plans for upcoming career fairs, a golf tournament, and other events to strengthen ties with the local community. The meeting also highlighted strategic updates, including improvements to classrooms, conference rooms, and the library, with plans to transform the library into an Innovation and Technology Center.



Institutional Advisory Council Activities Biennial Report

GBC IAC Meeting Summaries 2023-2024 (Continued)

September 19, 2024

The council began the September meeting by approving the minutes from the previous meeting and updating the meeting schedule for 2024-2025. A significant focus was placed on program expansions, including the Medical Assisting, Phlebotomy, and EKG program, as well as the launch of the new Innovation and Technology Center. The council also highlighted progress toward accreditation for the Respiratory Therapy Program and discussed new grant-funded initiatives to expand medical assisting and CNA programs for Native American populations. They continued efforts to integrate flexible scheduling options into CTE programs, ensuring more accessibility for students. Grant funding was a major topic, with GBC securing around \$8 million since July 2024, including \$900,000 for mining skills programs. The council also celebrated community outreach efforts, including successful events like the Golf Classic and Beats and Bites food truck series, and discussed plans for upcoming events such as mask-making workshops and alumni gatherings. Interim President Amber Donnelly outlined her vision for GBC, emphasizing collaboration and innovation, and the council continued to focus on enrollment and retention strategies, with a notable 16.5% increase in enrollment for Fall 2024.

2023-2025 Board Membership updates of the GBC Institutional Advisory Board

Newly Appointed Member

Michelle Hammond-Allen

2 Open Board Positions