

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

GREAT BASIN COLLEGE (GBC)

Institutional Advisory Council

1500 College Parkway

Elko, Nevada 89801

Thursday, January 20, 2022 7:00 am (PST)

Meeting held VIA Zoom with no physical locations

MINUTES

(Approved at the 3/17/22 IAC Meeting)

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call** – The meeting was called to order at 7:00 am by chair John Tierney and a roll call was taken.

PRESENT:

Terri Clark

Billie Crapo

Barbara Gallagher Kidwell

Caroline McIntosh

Dave Roden

Stacy Smith

John Tierney

GBC STAFF PRESENT:

William Brown

Amber Donnelly

Mardell Dorsa

Mary Doucette

Joyce Helens

Bret Murphy

Jake Rivera

Kevin Seipp

Sonja Sibert

Karl Stevens

NSHE STAFF PRESENT:

Cathy McAdoo, Regent

Craig Von Collenberg, Vice Chancellor

- 2. Public Comment** *(see foregoing notation regarding public comment)*

Wil Moschetti, former GBC Institutional Advisory Council (IAC) member, stated he understands he no longer has a voice or vote, but he would hope that the IAC would offer him a voice.

- 3. Approval of Minutes**

GBC Institutional Advisory Council approved the minutes of the GBC IAC meeting on September 23, 2021, with Dave Roden making a motion to approve the minutes; motion seconded by Stacy Smith; motion passed unanimously.

4. GBC IAC Chair Report

Mr. Tierney reported that Vice Chancellor Crystal Abba will not be attending today's meeting. There has not been a Chairs meeting in quite some time. Mr. Tierney missed the last Chairs meeting due to medical reasons.

5. IAC Member Reports

Terri Clark reported the hospital is seeing a demand for tests as the Omicron variant has been going through the community. The hospital is also seeing an increase in influenza and other respiratory illnesses. Ms. Clark thanked GBC for the great support in continuing to coordinate the contact tracing.

6. President's Report

President Helens thanked those members who are serving on both the IAC and the Foundation Trustees and thanked Terri Clark for her kind words. At the height of the pandemic GBC had turned our fitness center into a monoclonal antibody clinic. All those patients that were seen at the clinic did not have to be hospitalized.

GBC is currently striving to get back to in person classes. We will continue to follow protocols to keep our students and faculty safe.

We recently presented our GBC biennial budget to the NSHE budget team virtually. It was a GBC team effort with the vice presidents and deans participating in the presentation. It is always good for others to see how we do work as a team and how important everybody is.

President Helens reported on the difficulty in recruiting and keeping good faculty. The housing prices are unaffordable, and salaries are stagnant. We have a mandated 1% merit increase for faculty beginning July 1st that we can all agree is not enough, however we must find the money somewhere to fund the increase, which is probably going to be in eliminating some positions.

President Helens talked about the two current GBC capital projects, the Winnemucca building which is ahead of schedule and the welding lab expansion in Elko. The next big project will be Pahrump campus. It will be a highly collaborative campus that will engage the community.

GBC enrollment is down. We can easily blame the pandemic, but in delving into the issue we discovered that 25% of our enrollment decline was due to another NSHE system mandate called the co-requisites. We were required to eliminate developmental education and make co-requisites. For Math, we took a three-credit developmental course to a five credit co-requisite course. For people with Math anxiety, they don't want to do that.

President Helens talked about GBC's relationship with UNR. We are still looking at a closer relationship with UNR. We already offer degrees with them and collaborate with them on back-office services, construction services, and some academic services. What suits GBC best in the long-term is being under a bigger tent, always maintaining our individuality and autonomy as Great Basin College.

There was a question about the vaccine mandate status at GBC. President Helens stated we have complied with the mandate, but now the student vaccine mandate has been eliminated. And this was a state of Nevada thing and had nothing to do with us so that created some friction. Our employees must be vaccinated and so now some faculty have shown concern about being in the classroom with unvaccinated students.

7. Vice President for Student & Academic Affairs Report

Vice President Jake Rivera reported GBC enrollments are down 7%. The student services staff have been working very hard and moving the needle as much as we can, especially due to some of those concerns that President Helens discussed. Many people are uncertain about returning to class. The co-requisites that President Helens mentioned is something that is being looked at, but we do see some improvement. We have opened some of our face-to-face courses with CTE. Vice President Rivera handed it over to the Deans for a report from their areas.

Bret Murphy reported the CTE programs started a week later than usual giving the students time to get through the surge of COVID that came from the holiday gatherings. The CTE classes are face to face now. It's still a struggle to keep everybody wearing masks. We have students that don't want to wear their masks. We had a ceremony awarding certificates to students from the National Center for Construction Education Research. GBC does a lot of their curriculum. It is a nationally recognized organization that awards credentials for our industrial maintenance training program. So, these students attain a couple of levels of training and certification. Dean Murphy talked about the Battle Born Youth Academy. There were four students who made it through this fall and graduated. Out of the four we have one that's coming to GBC this spring semester. GBC will have a new section starting at the academy in spring. The Battle Born Academy had fifty students in fall and will have two hundred potentially next fall. It's a very nice program for at risk students and it's all voluntary. They do not have to attend if they don't want to, but it is military based.

We are currently recruiting for the MTC scholarship program. The maintenance training cooperative funds the scholarship. It is a partnership of the mining industry and support vendors. This year, we had sixty-six scholars who get a \$5,000 scholarship and it comes with a job. On December 16 we got the Ely MTC group together and talked about what we're doing there and about recruiting students.

Dean Murphy said the Welding Lab Expansion should be completed in March 2023.

Mary Doucette discussed some personnel changes within her area. She talked about the Teach Nevada Scholarships that are available.

Dean Doucette reported the Bachelor of Art in Early Childhood Education was implemented this fall and already has thirty-five declared majors.

Amber Donnelly reported on the contact tracing. There are more cases than ever before, and Humboldt County is also surging. Dean Donnelly appreciated the support that President Helens has for this endeavor, and she is certain the state of Nevada appreciates it as well.

Dean Donnelly reported on the partnership with the Battle Born Youth Academy. The students there will have an opportunity to register for the CNA and get licensed. The tuition would be covered by the Sandy Grant. It is a good fit as the minimum age requirement is 16. GBC received approximately \$500,000 from the Sandy Grant and some of the funding will support the EMS and CNA program. She reported on the Nursing program in Ely where there will be four graduating in Spring. There are many partnerships in the Ely area that made this happen.

Dean Donnelly reported on partnerships with Humboldt General Hospital and Northeastern Nevada Regional Hospital to develop a respiratory therapist program.

Dean Donnelly reported that an employee at the Pahrump campus suggested marketing the EMS and CNA programs in the movie theaters and created some ads that played in 65 theaters in Las Vegas to start and then we continued with airing them in the Elko theater. New ideas like this are appreciated and they work.

Karl Stevens reported his area is helping faculty get their content ready to go and answering questions. The instructional designer position is vacant and an important position to fill. Professional development workshops started this week for faculty returning from the break.

8. Vice Chancellor for Student & Academic Affairs Report

No report.

9 Superintendents' Report

No report

10. New Business

John Tierney is always thinking of new ways to promote GBC and he suggested a speaker's bureau where everyone is sharing the same information and speaking about the college in one voice. Jennifer Sprout said the college currently does a Lunch with a Leader that is vetted, but she would like to hear more about John's idea and would be reaching out to him.

Terri Clark said with the stress of everything going on, how can the IAC help or support the college better? President Helens thanked Ms. Clark for her comments. President Helens has always seen the IAC as ambassadors for the college. She will reflect on Ms. Clark's question and get back to the group. As the relationship with UNR continues to grow it is beneficial for GBC to

be under one umbrella in terms of resources while keeping our own identity. There will be more on this as things progress.

11. Public Comment *(see foregoing notation regarding public comment)*

Wil Moschetti congratulated all seven members of the IAC for being here to make 100% attendance. He said he could not recall that ever happening in his years of service. It also reminded him that the minimum number of members on the IAC is seven, so the board needs to seek new members.

12. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Tierney at 7:57 a.m.