

GREAT BASIN COLLEGE (GBC)
Institutional Advisory Council
MEETING MINUTES (approved on 11/26/24)
Thursday, September 19, 2024

Call to Order and Roll Call: – Chair Tierney called the meeting to order at 7:03 am and asked that a roll call be taken. The meeting had a quorum.

GBC IAC Members Present: Terri Clark, Billie Crapo, Barbara Gallagher Kidwell, Caroline McIntosh, Dave Roden, Stacy Smith, John Tierney

GBC Staff Present: Amber Donnelly, Mardell Dorsa, Mary Doucette, Leslie Maple, Sarah Negrete, Gail Rappa, Shemain Pitts, Christopher Salute, Staci Warnert, Kiah Beverly (Legal Counsel)

NSHE Representatives Present: Natalie Brown

Others Present: Adam Young, White Pine County Superintendent

Public Comment: None

Minutes for Approval: Dave Roden made a motion to approve the minutes of the GBC IAC meeting on September 19, 2024. Terri Clark seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Approved the Proposed Changes to the 2024-2025 Meeting Schedule: Changes to the 2024-2025 meeting schedule for the GBC IAC were recommended due to scheduling conflicts with out of town travel for GBC staff. The proposed new schedule:

- September 19, 2024
- November 21, 2024 - **change to November 26, 2024**
- February 20, 2025
- April 17, 2025 - **change to April 24, 2025**

All the meetings will begin at 7:00am

Dave Roden made a motion to approve the November meeting date to November 26 and the April meeting date to April 24, 2025. Terri Clark seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

President's Update: Interim President Amber Donnelly introduced herself as the new interim president of Great Basin College and outlined her vision for the year, focusing on the theme "Ignite the Fire."

She highlighted the importance of education, faculty, staff, communities, and stakeholders in achieving the college's mission.

President Donnelly discussed the implementation of town halls at each GBC location to foster open communication and transparency. She provided an update on the funding formula changes proposed by the Nevada System of Higher Education, emphasizing the potential benefits for Great Basin College. She talked about the small institution factor maybe changing which would mean more money coming to GBC.

President Donnelly discussed the branding of GBC and emphasized the importance of a unified brand for GBC, with consistent branding across all materials and presentations. She mentioned the success of the new branding efforts, including faculty and staff adoption of GBC branded attire.

President Donnelly discussed the capital improvement project for the Pahrump campus, seeking \$12 million for planning and design from the State Public Works Board. She highlighted the need for fundraising efforts to support the Pahrump project and mentioned the potential for increased enrollment and program growth.

President Donnelly said there is a new culture at GBC with more inclusivity and open communications. She talked about the new committee she has established that will have representation from all areas of the college.

Lastly, President Donnelly introduced and thanked Kiah Beverley for attending the meeting. He is the new GBC legal counsel.

Superintendents Report: Adam Young of White Pine County School District and Clayton Anderston of Elko County School District were in attendance and allowed to report on anything of significance. There was a discussion of high school students graduating with an associates degree a couple of weeks before getting their high school diplomas thanks to the great dual enrollment programs.

Vice President for Student & Academic Affairs Report: VP Jake Rivera talked about Enrollment, Retention, and First-Year Experience. He noted a 16.5% increase in head count and an 11% increase in FTE for the fall 2024 semester. He discussed the importance of retention strategies, aiming to increase the retention rate by an additional 2% with the help of the new Director of Institutional Research. He stated the new First Year Experience seminar, designed to help first-year students transition into college life and build academic foundations, will greatly assist with outcomes. He outlines the various topics covered in the seminar, including time management, financial literacy, career exploration, and academic success strategies.

VP Rivera went on to discuss the topic of CTE programs and future plans. He introduced Dr. Dave Stoddard as the new dean of industrial technology and workforce development. He discussed the mining center of excellence, emphasizing the need for a collaborative network rather than a

single physical location. He highlighted the importance of flexible programs to meet the needs of diverse student populations, including evening and weekend classes, condensed programs, modular scheduling, and hybrid models. He mentioned the success of current CTE programs and the need for new strategies to increase enrollment and relevance in today's workforce.

VP Rivera then called upon the deans to report on their areas.

Mary Doucette, Dean of Arts and Sciences gave an update on the Northwest, including visits to College of Eastern Idaho and Snow College to gather best practices for data-informed decision-making.

She discussed the implementation of a new data science and analytics certificate, as well as plans for a project management certificate in the business department. Dean Doucette highlighted the success of the inmate education program at the Lovelock Correctional Facility and the positive impact of the Second Chance Pell Grant. She provided updates on various programs, including geology, data science and analytics, dispatcher, early childhood education, and engineering technician.

Staci Warnert, Dean of Health Sciences and Behavior Health, discussed the progress of the respiratory therapy program towards accreditation and the expansion of the medical assistant phlebotomy EKG program to Pahrump and Winnemucca. She highlighted the success of the nursing program in retaining graduates in rural Nevada and the ongoing efforts to increase enrollment. Staci Warnert mentioned the award of a grant to expand medical assisting and CNA programs to Native American populations. She discussed the LPN/paramedic pathway into the nursing program and the need for funding to support students in the medical assistant program.

Gail Rappa, Director of Continuing Education and Community Service provided updates on the fitness center memberships, CDL program, and driver's ed course, emphasizing the importance of community engagement and outreach. She discussed the success of the CDL program and the need to expand evening and weekend classes to accommodate more students. She highlighted the importance of contract training and team-building exercises for local businesses and industries. She mentioned the upcoming events, including a mask-making event, the Ruby Valley Treaty Conference, the father-daughter ball, and the dedication of the 1000 cranes mobile.

Associate Vice President Report: Sarah Negrete introduced herself. She is backfilling President Donnelly's old position she left when she became interim President. She previously worked for GBC ten years ago for ten years. She oversees dual credit, grants, and academic success center and library. The dual credit programs are doing well as reported by the superintendents. GBC has a fabulous grants team. Since July 1, GBC has been awarded approximately \$8 million in grants. One of the grants is allowing us remodel the library to move the academic success center there. These efforts will culminate in the new Innovation and Technology Center.

Foundation and Communicatiuons Report: Leslie Maple, Executive Director, Institutional Advancement, discussed the success of the Golf Classic fundraiser and the Beats and Bites food truck series, emphasizing the importance of community engagement. She highlighted the efforts

to refresh the college's branding and the development of new marketing materials to support enrollment goals.

She mentioned the upcoming holiday fundraiser in Winnemucca and the planning for an alumni event in Ely. She discussed the importance of consistent branding and the development of new website to support communication and outreach efforts.

GBC IAC Member Reports:

Chair John Tierney emphasized the importance of community involvement and the need for GBC to be more visible in local events and activities. He mentioned the success of the early educator conference and the need for a rural state teacher of the year to promote regional excellence.

Terri Clark discussed her new role at the hospital and the importance of dual credit programs in providing critical staff for healthcare providers. She invited IAC members to attend the chamber after-hours event and the ladies night out event, highlighting the need for presenters on various health topics.

Stacy Smith reported on the many activities and events happening in Nye County. The Remote Area Medical in October and the Fall Fest being just a couple. She reported that Valley Electric was just awarded an \$80.3 million grant to develop solar storage. She will keep the IAC posted on that development.

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Workforce Development and Community Colleges Update:

Natalie Brown stated what an exciting time to be part of GBC and even the IAC crew. Everyone is excited at the creativity and innovation happening at GBC. She commended the GBC grants team for all they have achieved in only only three months. She reported the Chancellor Search Committee is kicking off on September 26 which will official start the search for a new chancellor. She thanked GBC's participation on the Nevada Works project, as well of the business industry and partners. The NSHE strategic planning process is underway. There are many big projects being worked on at the system level. A lot of it is dealing with alignment, getting all of our system institutions to be moving in the same direction. She congratulated GBC on the approximately \$900,000 awarded for the mine skills programs.

New Business: None

Public Comment: None

Meeting Adjourn: Chair Tierney adjourned the meeting at 8:28 am.