
MEETING MINUTES- MARCH 7, 2024

Roll Call-Meeting Called to Order at 9:01am

IAC Members: BJ North, Nancy McCormick, Milton Stewart, Edward Estipona, Marissa Brown, Craig Madole, Eric Brown, Yanus Nelson

IAC College Representatives: Dr. Natalie Brown, Hallie Madole, D. Rick Bullis, Brayson Gomez

Public Members: Melissa Olsen, Kiah Beverly, Ty Hagar, Estela Gutierrez, Mike Peyerl, Dr. Jeffrey Alexander, Dr. Karin Hilgersom, Ayodele Akinola

Quorum was established.

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

Nancy McCormick made a motion to approve the IAC Minutes from December 2023, seconded by Eric Brown. All present IAC members were in favor and the motion passed. Approved at 9:10 AM.

President's Updates

President Hilgersom attended COP 28 in Dubai; videos were shown at the December IAC meeting. She was invited to attend as she is on the Second Nature Steering Committee. She was on 4 panels throughout the conference - the only representative of a predominately 2-yr college on these panels and the only representative from Nevada. The President will be doing a Town Hall on April 30 to further discuss COP 28 and everyone is welcome to join.

In February, the President attended the 2024 Higher Education Climate Leadership Summit hosted by Second Nature. Her biggest takeaway from this conference was grant money associated with the Inflation Reduction Act. There is money that organizations can access to help transition America to renewable infrastructures. She is watching these grants to see how they can be utilized within TMCC.

Spring enrollment update: we are very close to pre-pandemic levels. We will end this year with just over 10,000 students, a 7.2% increase from this time last spring. We are very excited about this growth and look forward to future growth and retention.

We have proposed what we are calling a Base+ Funding Model to the Chancellor's ad hoc committee on Higher Education Funding. The biggest change would address the issue with weighted credit student hours. Currently, we only receive funding at a full-time equivalent student completion rate, yet part-time students require the same amount of wrap around services. Additionally, we don't receive funding for roughly three years after a snapshot year, so the numbers will have changed by the time we receive funding. She will keep this group updated on the progress.

With the closure of Career College of Northern Nevada, we have served 200 students so far and they keep reaching out every day. We are very excited to be able to assist these students.

Finally, we are still working towards the establishment of the Fire Tower and wildland fire training program at the Health Science Center in South Reno. We are very excited about this program and will keep the group updated on our progress.

Constituent Updates

Assistant Vice Chancellor of Workforce Development and Community Colleges (NSHE) – Dr. Natalie Brown

- The Chancellor recently gave a State of the System presentation to the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education.
- The ad hoc Committee on Higher Education Funding is meeting to discuss funding for higher education in Nevada. The Presidents have presented at these meetings and they are all working together to better understand areas for improvement in the funding formula.
- The NSHE Board of Regents has voted in a new Chair, Amy Carvalho, and Vice Chair, Jeffery Downs.
- The NSHE Board of Regents Workforce Committee has a new Chair as well, Heather Brown.
- There will be an upcoming presentation on non-credit courses and how those can better meet the workforce development demands.
- There is an upcoming presentation at the Joint Interim Committee on Health and Human Services in which SB375, the Nursing expansion, will be discussed. Thank you to the TMCC folks who were able to get that information together quickly. This group will be updated on the progress of that conversation.

Classified Council – Hallie Madole

- Classified Council is working on their summer symposium, which gives classified employees the chance to do professional development training.
- They have an upcoming Easter Egg Hunt and are taking donations as well as encouraging all to come and enjoy.

Student Government Association – YeVonne Allen on behalf of Brayson Gomez

- SGA is currently running elections for officer seats for next year.
- They are distributing a survey to all students to get feedback on the events they have held this year.

Faculty Senate – Dr. Rick Bullis

- They recently formed an AI and Emerging Technology Task Force that will present to the Planning Council monthly during contract months.
- They are in the first stages of developing a Credit for Prior Learning platform to help assist more students get into school and through faster based on their already obtained knowledge.
- TMCC graduated 48 students from the Tesla Manufacturing Development Program, including 16 students from the Tesla Start Program and 20 from the Tesla Employee Assistant Program.
- TMCC has hired three new faculty in the growing areas of Welding and Advanced Manufacturing.
- The National Science Foundation has given TMCC additional support for our engineering program, in consortium with UNR, WNC, and GBC, to assist with improving pathways for these students.
- TMCC just hired their first Data Science Instructor with assistance from GOED.
- Fire Technology enrollment is up 16% and we are very excited about the Fire Tower Project.

Presentations and Discussions

ACCT Legislative Conference Update – Integrating Workforce Training and Economic Development at All Levels Dr. Karin Hilgersom and Dr. Natalie Brown

The Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) held their Legislative Conference in February 2024 in Washington DC. They provide education and professional advocacy for Community Colleges. Below are some highlights from the conference.

- The group represents 6500 elected and appointed officials. Regent DeCarlo is the current Vice Chair.
- Some notable speakers from the conference were: Jennifer Granholm, Secretary of Energy; Amy Walter, publisher and editor-in-chief of the Cook Political Report; Bill McBride, the National Governors Association; Alejandra E. Castillo, assistant Secretary of Commerce; and Virginia Fox, US House of Representatives.

- While at the conference President Hilgersom was invited to the White House for a listening session with other community college presidents where they discussed advanced manufacturing and sustainability.
- Dr. Brown, the President, and VPFG Mike Peyerl were also able to meet with Representative Amodei and Senator Cortez-Masto.
- There were large discussions around the workforce and traditional Pell Grants that would help to serve primarily community college students, and would make adjustments based on inflation.
- You can go to now.acct.org to see the full list of priorities as defined by the ACCT.

Listening Session

IAC Council Member Take-Aways

Edward Estipona- raised the concern that there is a lot of great workforce development happening out there but many are working in silos. Is appreciative of the partnerships starting to form to ensure that we are all working together.

Chair North – encouraged the group to go to the ACCT page and review their priorities and pick a few that are important to them and be ready to speak on them when they talk with their representatives.

Milton Stewart – wanted to pass along a large thanks to TMCC and Dean Harrell on the quick effort to assist the student of Career College of Northern Nevada that closed down. Also discussed the Good Jobs Grant and how this will provide wrap around services to those students. He is very excited to see this begin to roll out and assist the students from CCNN.

Marissa Brown – discussed concerns about hiring and retaining faculty in nursing. We need strong salaries to encourage people to apply but we need to be conscientious in case funding changes in the future. Additionally, there are new cybersecurity positions opening at hospitals that we should look to train on through workforce development.

New Business

Committee would like to discuss AI and the effects it will have on their industries.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Meeting adjourned at 10:52am

Unpacking the 2024 ACCT National Legislative Summit

Presented by Dr. Karin Hilgersom and Dr. Natalie Brown

What is the ACCT and the Annual Summit?

- American Community College Trustee Association (founded 1969)
- Represents 6500 elected and appointed trustees (*Congrats Regent & ACCT Board Vice Chair Carol Del Carlo!*)
- Provides Education and Professional Advocacy for Community Colleges
- The purpose of the Annual Summit



The purpose: *Learning from national leaders and meeting with Nevada's congressional leaders*

Examples of national level speakers

Jennifer Granholm

Secretary of Energy, US Department of Energy

Amy Walter

Publisher and Editor-in-Chief, The Cook Political Report with Amy Walter

Bill McBride

Executive Director, National Governors Association

Alejandra Y. Castillo

Assistant Secretary of Commerce

Julie A. Su

Acting Secretary of Labor

Virginia Foxx

US House of Representatives

Advocates such as **Jee Hang Lee** (ACCT) and college trustees and presidents

A time and space to *plan and partner*

Nevada System of Higher Education
Truckee Meadows Community College
College of Southern Nevada





Advocacy & Storytelling

Meeting with Nevada's
Congressional Leaders

Participating in a listening session
at the White House

The *Green Sheet*

Pell Grant

Workforce Pell

End taxation of Pell Grants

Boost Pell Grant maximum



The *Green Sheet*

Strengthen WIOA and
Under-Resourced
Institutions

Support Access and
Student Success

Increase Access to
SNAP



What Can *You* Do?

- ❑ Importance of **civic action** to support community colleges year-round
- ❑ **Familiarize yourself** with important issues facing community colleges
- ❑ **now.acct.org**
- ❑ **Reach out** to representatives
- ❑ Don't hesitate to **ask!**

Questions?

Thank you!