...with a new name.

The University and Community College System of Nevada is now the Nevada System of Higher Education
A RICH HISTORY

On May 19, 2005, Gov. Kenny Guinn signed into law AB 527 which renamed the University and Community College System of Nevada to the Nevada System of Higher Education. Although this change may appear to be of minor significance, in truth, it reflects the latest chapter in the long story of the nation’s fastest growing higher education system.

The story began shortly after Nevada joined the Union as the 36th state when the Nevada Board of Regents was formed in 1865 to oversee the creation of the state’s first university. As the demand for higher education continued to grow, more institutions were added over the ensuing decades. More than 100 years later, the Board of Regents decided to create a statewide system.

Prior to that time, every institution in Nevada was considered an extension of the University of Nevada in Reno. However, as the 1960s progressed, the Regents realized that Nevada’s population was growing at a rapid pace—making the need for a centralized administrative structure vital to the educational future of the state. Additionally, the Board recognized that every campus should be considered a full-fledged institution in their own right. Therefore, on February 10, 1968, the Board voted unanimously to create the University of Nevada System, comprised of the University of Nevada, Reno; the University of Nevada, Las Vegas; and the Desert Research Institute.

As both Nevada and the System grew, money was secured for additional buildings on existing campuses, and eventually four community colleges were built throughout the state. By 1991, the Board voted to change the name to the University and Community College System of Nevada to incorporate the state’s fast-growing community college population. With the creation of Nevada State College in 2000, the face of the UCCSN had changed once again. In 2002, the Board voted to rename the System to reflect these changes and more inclusively reflect its makeup. Thus, the Nevada System of Higher Education was born.

A GOVERNING BOARD

Nevada’s Board of Regents governs the Nevada System of Higher Education. Elected to serve a six-year term, the 13 regents set policies and approve budgets for the Nevada System of Higher Education including four community colleges, one state college, two universities and one research institute.

The eight institutions governed by the regents include: Community College of Southern Nevada; Desert Research Institute; Great Basin College; Nevada State College; Truckee Meadows Community College; University of Nevada, Las Vegas; University of Nevada, Reno; and Western Nevada Community College. For fall semester 2004, more than 100,000 students were enrolled in these institutions.

The Board leadership is comprised of a chair and vice chair who serve one-year terms and are elected by the Board’s membership.

VISION STATEMENT: The Board of Regents wishes to advance student learning to the highest level, foster the expansion of knowledge through teaching and research, encourage community service, and enrich the lives of our students, our communities, our state, and the nation. In fulfillment of this purpose, we hold the following values at the center of our endeavor:

- Integrity
- Excellence
- Accountability
- Inclusiveness
- Creativity
- Innovation

To help achieve these goals the Board of Regents follows the guidelines of its System-wide master plan, established in 2002. This plan, Building Nevada’s Future: A Master Plan for Higher Education in Nevada, defines the goals and sets an agenda for higher education. The plan is based on the premise that higher education is a public good that should contribute to Nevada’s economic, social, and cultural development.
SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION

Led by Chancellor James E. Rogers, who serves as the NSHE’s chief executive officer, System Administration is responsible for developing system-wide strategies and implementing Board policies. In addition to the chancellor, System Administration is comprised of the following departments: Academic, Research, and Student Affairs, Finance and Planning, Human Resources, and Legal Affairs, as well as the System Computing Services department and the System’s own University of Nevada Press.

Academic, Research, and Student Affairs is the chief academic arm of the NSHE. ARSA develops, administers, coordinates, and evaluates all academic, research and student affairs programs and policies, including program review, academic standards, and degree requirements throughout the NSHE. Reporting to ARSA are the System’s Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) and the Management Assistance Partnership (MAP).

The goal of EPSCoR is to stimulate sustainable improvements in the quality of academic science and technology infrastructure of eligible states.

As the industrial extension program of the NSHE, MAP helps meet these vital needs by working directly with Nevada manufacturing, construction and mining companies to streamline operations, apply the most up-to-date and sophisticated technology, provide managerial assistance and train the workforce.

Finance and Administration handles all fiscal and budgetary needs of the NSHE, including budget analysis, building services, capital planning, financial affairs, investment, internal audit, and more.

Human Resources provides long-term planning and coordination in the development of human resource management policies and practices for the NSHE. Its activities include recommending and implementing programs, policies and procedures to assist in the effective management of each institution’s human resources; performing System Administration personnel administration; and coordinating System-wide affirmative ac-

Legal Affairs oversees all legal matters affecting the NSHE, as well as provides legal advice and guidance to all institutions within the NSHE, the Board of Regents, and System Administration to ensure compliance with Board policy and statutory requirements. The department also analyzes legal issues arising from Board and university initiatives and represents the System and its institutions in litigation.

In addition to these departments, the System receives vital support from its own System Computing Services (SCS). System Computing Services provides information technology leadership and system-wide technology services to the NSHE in support of its instructional, research and service missions.

The System’s University of Nevada Press publishes high-quality, deserving works that advance scholarly research, contribute to the understanding and appreciation of regional history and culture, and reach a wide range of academic and general readers.
EIGHT INSTITUTIONS

COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN NEVADA
The Community College of Southern Nevada (CCSN), the third largest community college in the nation, responds to the needs of the country’s fastest growing region through innovative educational programs and services, faculty and facility expansion, and synergetic partnerships. Via three main campuses and 50 academic centers, CCSN offers college and technical education in more than 75 high-growth career fields to a service area encompassing the Las Vegas metropolitan area and four adjoining counties. The success of CCSN is evidenced by a strong and growing enrollment of more than 35,000 students, and in its appeal to the region's increasingly diverse population. In the last three decades, as the region’s economy has diversified, CCSN has been integral in providing a trained workforce, offering employers “ironclad guarantees” in business training.

DESERT RESEARCH INSTITUTE
The Desert Research Institute (DRI) is the nonprofit environmental research campus of the Nevada System of Higher Education. Uniquely blending academia and entrepreneurship, DRI employs more than 500 research faculty, support staff and students who are engaged in a research enterprise generating approximately $45 million in total annual revenue. At any given time, DRI is engaged in approximately 300 scientific research projects from their main research campuses in Las Vegas (Southern Nevada Science Park) and Reno (Dandini Research Park), with subsidiary campuses in Boulder City, Nevada and Steamboat Springs, Colorado. DRI's environmental research programs are directed from three core divisions (Atmospheric Sciences, Earth and Ecosystem Sciences, and Hydrologic Sciences) and three interdisciplinary centers (Center for Arid Lands Environmental Management, the Center for Watersheds and Environmental Sustainability, and the Frank H. Rogers Center for Environmental Remediation and Monitoring). Grounded in fundamental research, DRI provides sponsors and clients with innovative solutions to pressing environmental problems as they balance the need to develop resources while protecting and sustaining the environment.

GREAT BASIN COLLEGE
Located in the high desert of northeastern Nevada, Great Basin College (GBC) is a comprehensive college offering both associate and baccalaureate degrees in career-focused areas of study. With its main campus in Elko, GBC provides residential student housing and state-of-the-art learning technology, even though it is the smallest of Nevada’s public colleges. Two branch campuses and a number of campus centers are located throughout the northeastern quarter of the state. The college maintains the spirit of a community college, providing affordable education in an environment that embraces and respects all cultures. GBC stands among the most innovative colleges in America, integrating many disciplines into single courses and programs, helping students to develop critical thinking and self-directed learning skills, preparing graduates to enter their careers and professional lives with the confidence and knowledge to succeed in the global marketplace.

NEVADA STATE COLLEGE
Founded in 2002, Nevada State College (NSC) was established to meet the needs of students who are interested in bachelor's degrees in much-needed fields such as nursing and education, as well as in other disciplines in the arts and sciences. Course work is fully transferable to both the first tier (universities) and the third tier (community colleges) in Nevada's higher education system. NSC is committed to providing the highest quality of instruction, as well as mentoring and advising services, to every student. The curriculum is based on community needs, the needs of business and industry, and the desires and demands of students.

TRUCKEE MEADOWS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC) is a first-class community college that delivers high quality education to a diverse student body. With more than 12,000 students enrolled in programs leading to associate degrees and certificates in more than 40 academic...
and occupational areas, TMCC is fulfilling its goal of providing superior, student-centered educational opportunities. TMCC helps students meet their personal and professional challenges, whatever they may be, by building strong foundations for future learning, critical thinking, and communication with others. TMCC graduates have become successful doctors, lawyers, business executives and community leaders. And with more than 40 sites county-wide, TMCC is now the fastest growing college in northern Nevada.

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS

With more than 27,000 students and 2,800 faculty and staff members, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) is located on 340 tree-lined acres in the heart of the fastest growing metropolitan area in the nation. Founded in 1957, UNLV is home to 19 colleges and schools offering more than 200 undergraduate, master's, and doctoral degrees to students from 47 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, and a host of foreign nations. Ranked in the category Doctoral/Research Universities-Intensive by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, UNLV is home to the world-renowned William F. Harrah College of Hotel Administration as well as Nevada's only law and dental schools. To keep pace with the tremendous growth of the University and the community, UNLV in 2004 dedicated its first regional campus at Shadow Lane, which is home to the school of dental medicine as well as a state-of-the-art biotechnology research center. UNLV is also currently engaged in the development of "Midtown UNLV," a public-private endeavor aimed at creating a culturally diverse university district in the area surrounding the main UNLV campus. UNLV is committed to providing superior educational experiences, strong research activities, extensive community outreach, and high caliber professional programs.

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO

Nationally recognized as one of America’s top-tier research and land grant institutions, the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) is in its third century of providing quality teaching, innovative research and outreach on its 200-acre campus located in northern Nevada’s major metropolitan area. Offering 76 undergraduate, 72 master’s and 38 doctoral programs in 11 independent schools and colleges and 79 academic departments, UNR provides quality education to more than 15,000 students from all 50 states and more than 77 foreign countries. Since 1874, the university has provided educational opportunities, addressed pressing state needs and brought practical, research-based answers to all Nevadans.

WESTERN NEVADA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Western Nevada Community College (WNCC) is a public, two-year, comprehensive community college with an 18,000-square-mile service area that covers seven counties. With an enrollment of approximately 6,000 students per semester, WNCC reaches out to its urban and rural communities with campuses in Carson City, Fallon and Minden. Education centers are found in nearly every community in the WNCC service area, including Dayton, Fernley, Hawthorne, Lake Tahoe, Lovelock, Smith Valley and Yerington. The college offers more than 50 academic degrees and certificates in areas as diverse as pre-engineering and construction technology, nursing, musical theatre, geographic information systems, and graphic design. Students may also complete up to two years of many baccalaureate degree programs, such as teacher preparation, for transfer to a university. The college’s main locations include Carson City, a scenic campus of classrooms, laboratories and a new technology complex perched on a hillside overlooking Nevada’s capital. In Fallon, 60 miles east, the college offers a second full-service campus, which serves students in Nevada’s agricultural heartland. In Minden/Gardnerville, WNCC offers a new classroom/laboratory building in a spectacular, pastoral setting.
THE FUTURE

The Nevada Higher Education System is more than a name. It represents a rich history of tradition, culture, and science that has improved the lives of countless generations of Nevadans. It also represents a promising future where a system is not only known for its remarkable growth, but for its world-class academics, research and student life.
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