

## **K-20 EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE ADVISORY BOARD**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

Date/Time: April 4, 2016; 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM  
Location: Nevada State College

#### **In Attendance:**

Edith Fernandez (*Nevada State College*)  
Dennis Pothoff (*Nevada State College*)  
Bart Patterson (*Nevada State College*)  
Dave Berns (*Nevada Succeeds*)  
Brent Husson (*Nevada Succeeds*)  
Sean Parker (*Teach for America, State Board of Education*)  
Ruben Murillo (*Nevada State Education Association*)  
Gwen Marchand (*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*)  
Magdalena Martinez (*The Lincy Institute*)  
Caitlin Saladino (*The Lincy Institute*)  
Andrea Mendez (*NSC Student Representative*)  
Desiree DeCosta (*NSC Student Representative*)  
Brisa Perez (*NSC Student Representative*)

#### **Proxy Representative:**

Cheri Ward (*Communities in Schools*)

#### **Welcome:**

Dr. Martinez introduced the meeting materials to the members (agenda, meeting minutes, and deliverables chart). Dr. Martinez reviewed our previous meeting minutes, making note of guest speaker, Manny Lamarre's presentation. Then, Dr. Martinez introduced our guest speaker: President Bart Patterson of Nevada State College.

#### **Guest Speaker:**

Bart Patterson, President, Nevada State College:

President Patterson spoke about various initiatives at Nevada State College. He began by introducing members to the newest buildings at NSC, the first higher education buildings built without state support in Nevada. He noted that NSC is more cost effective for the State, and receives less funding from state allocations. NSC also serves a large non-traditional student population. Additionally, students at NSC are overwhelmingly a population from neighboring transfer institutions, mainly from CSN. Nearly 70% of NSC students are first generation and nearly 80% are female. Even in the sciences NSC's students are about 60% female, and about 60% of tenured faculty are women. President Patterson noted that this may be a reflection of a new start up institution in the last decade, seeing that there is a large pool of Ph.D. candidates to draw from.

Nevada State College also has a variety of unique programs and student success

initiatives in place. President Patterson spoke about the course assistant initiative, which allows upper level students with high performance metrics to assist other students. The program is run through student employment, so it has the dual benefit of allowing students the opportunity to work on campus, and allowing students to get experience in a field of their interest. The Nepantla program has been supported by the Rogers Foundation, Switch, and the Elaine Wynn Foundation. The program creates a summer cohort that takes classes together, along with peer mentoring. The cohort continues into the first year, where they are enrolled in classes with their peers and maintain relationships with faculty. Although not originally anticipated with Nepantla, as the first years finished that part of the program, NSC continued with those students as upper division advisors. Nepantla is in its third year, and has shown a 90% retention after the first year; 56% of non-Nepantla students are retained into the second year. With more resources, NSC hopes to expand Nepantla in the future.

Dr. Pothoff then spoke about the college of education at NSC. He mentioned that the college of education is ready to grow and ready to be a part of the pipeline to create educators for Southern Nevada. They are currently looking at expanding to provide a new program in inclusive early childhood education licensure, in addition to programs for teachers of ELL. Dr. Pothoff noted that he is excited about some of the things that are on the horizon, but noted that teacher education is a challenge for everyone in the State. One new expansion would involve the Scottish Rite Free Masons Organization, which supports 200 clinics across the nation with their primary philanthropy in speech language pathology for early childhood education. Dr. Pothoff noted that NSC already has approval from the state, to build a speech language pathology center, but it's currently a matter of Rite paying the facility.

President Patterson then continued by speaking about the nursing program at NSC, which is ranked one of the top ten programs in the west. Nursing is the largest major by far for NSC students, and the largest nursing program in the state. Additionally, it is the most cost effective nursing program to operate. President Patterson also noted that NSC is committed to a true liberal arts education, and bridges social sciences, physical sciences, and humanities together for students. He also noted that nearly half of NSC students are pursuing a graduate education.

Additionally, President Patterson spoke about a proposed physical partnership with CSN to help share facilities with the Henderson campus. NSC has plans within 2 years to build residential facilities, and expand international education on their own campus. He noted that NSC's plan is modeled after NAU's to expand education programs. Additionally, he hopes to be able to collaborate with DRI to emphasize research culture on the NSC campus.

Finally, he spoke on a proposal to open up a charter program for early childhood to k-8 to high school. According to President Patterson, the Clark County School District is NSC's primary partner, and he noted that they will signal what type of partnership they want to have with NSC on their physical space. He stated that the space may be of use to them for teacher development, or virtual high school. President Patterson noted it is too

early to know what that partnership might look like, but that NSC is primarily interested in being nationally recognized as experts in serving a first generation, underrepresented population. Dr. Martinez asked if President Patterson would be open to hearing suggestions for what the living lab might look like from the education professionals of the board. Dr. Pothoff noted that it would be amazing to include an early childhood center with a speech and hearing clinic. It would meet the needs of the community and the needs of non-traditional students who might have children. He mentioned that the model would allow for the NSC campus to become a location where our students can learn from a living lab model.

Mr. Murillo asked what HSI status means for NSC, and President Patterson said that 2 years from now they will be certified to apply for grant funding. He believes that time will allow NSC to become more competitive in applying for grants. President Paterson hopes also to partner with other institutions, like CSN, which is now eligible to apply for Title 5 funding under HSI. For now, he states it makes sense for NSC to partner with a 4 year institutions for their grant.

Dr. Marchand asked about data sharing between NSC and other institutions. President Patterson said NSC shares data with CSN very easily, but not with UNLV yet. Dr. Marchand noted that it would be interesting to see the variables and their impact on transfer.

Dr. Martinez noted that this was a great opportunity to learn a bit more about this hidden gem in higher education. Dr. Fernandez noted that the residential facilities would be another opportunity for partnership, and something for an outside company to come and build. She noted that NSC has the land available for development, so it would be something that would allow for an outside company to build and manage.

### **Final Comments**

Dr. Martinez announced that Lincy will be consolidating the Education Collaborative Advisory Board with a new Lincy Institute Advisory Board in the fall. In the survey sent out by Ms. Saladino, members were asked about their willingness to continue to participate. Dr. Martinez noted that since there has been a lot of overlap in the advisory board membership, the new Lincy-wide board will allow the Institute to be more strategic. Dr. Martinez also announced that she will be starting to teach at UNLV in the fall. She also reminded members about an invitation to an upcoming forum on community college governance. The forum will feature a practitioner focused presentation, and will include a panel of former community college presidents. The event will be held on April 14<sup>th</sup>. The CCSD reorganization is another project we have been working on, through surveys and focus groups to understand the concerns and ideas around the CCSD reorganization. Updates on these issues will continue to be provided through the Education section of the Lincy Institute website.

***Recorded by:***  
***Caitlin J. Saladino, M.A.***