

College of Southern Nevada Institutional Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Welcome, call to order and roll call

The regular meeting of the Institutional Advisory Council was called to order at 11:01am.

Roll was called:

Present

- Chair Randy Robison
- Vice Chair Peter Guzman
- John R. Bailey
- Dr. Nancy E. Brune
- Tim Buchanan
- Jaime Cruz
- Ken Evans
- Maria Jose Gatti
- Paul J. Moradkhan
- Shaundell Newsome
- Jonas Peterson
- CSN Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Maria Schellhase
- ASCSN President Karli McFarling-Kelly
- CCSD Superintendent Dr. Jesus F. Jara (proxy: Dr. Mike Barton)

Absent

- Vida Chan Lin
- Dennis Perea
- Jose Solorio
- Shari Wong

Chair Robison welcomed and thanked Council members and guests for their attendance.

1. *Public Comment*

Chair Robison called for public comment. There was no public comment received.

2. *Approval of Minutes*

Chair Robison called for approval of the minutes of the February 9, 2021, IAC meeting. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the February 9, 2021, meeting minutes were approved.

3. *Report from the Council Chair*

Council Chair Robison provided a report on his activities since the last meeting:

- Colton Teerlink recently stepped down from the IAC due to a change in employment.
- Chair Robison has participated in recent meetings with the other IAC chairs. Former Vice Chancellor Nate Mackinnon recently returned to Massachusetts after accepting a new position as Executive Director of the Massachusetts Association of Community Colleges. Caleb Cage will be rejoining NSHE and serving as the new Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges.
- The next IAC meeting will likely be held the first week of August and will be conducted in retreat format. The meeting may also last longer than the traditional IAC meetings.

4. *President's Welcome & Update*

CSN President Dr. Federico Zaragoza welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting, and provided an update on several recent events:

- CSN continues to participate in Southern Nevada and NSHE vaccination efforts, including having a presence at each vaccination site. CSN is also hosting a community outreach vaccination site at the North Las Vegas Campus.
- CSN is planning to return to campus in the fall with full campus operations and will align its standards to current COVID-related safety provisions. Students will have access to online, in-person, and hybrid courses; students prefer the hybrid modality. Last fall, enrollment at CSN was down by 12% due to COVID, so CSN needs to increase by 4,000 enrollments in order to be able to maintain the pre-COVID enrollment. Summer enrollment is up about 10% compared to this time last year. CSN also expects a burst of enrollment in the 30 short-term accelerated training programs.
- CSN recently launched its advanced manufacturing cohorts at the Henderson Campus, which is supported by a \$2 million GOED grant.
- The new weekend college program has an 80% fill rate.
- CSN is launching three new targeted initiatives to target new enrollments: an opportunity for 500 GED students to enroll in college occupational pathways which could result in 1,000 additional students, with potential support from Bank of America of \$100,000 to the CSN Foundation; working with CCSD to pilot a concurrent enrollment CTE and early college expansion; and opening of the Betty Engelstad School of Health and Sciences which includes hiring an additional nine professors to accommodate an influx of about 1,200 students in fall 2021. CSN looks forward to the School of Health Sciences grand opening ceremony which will include recognition and place of honor for the IAC.
- CSN successfully navigated a complex and challenging legislative budget session. CSN absorbed a 12% budget reduction. The approved budget included \$6 million for caseload growth and \$5.8 million for capacity enhancement. CSN also received about \$26 million in federal economic stimulus funding, and expects to hear about a third round of HEERF funding soon. CSN also expects an influx of federal stimuli funding because it is part of the President's American Jobs Plan. CSN is in an ideal situation to benefit from this funding. AACC has recognized CSN as an institution that has used the COVID era to transition to a post-COVID workforce rapid response system.
- CSN received a \$6.9 million EDA grant in collaboration with the City of Las Vegas and Councilman Crear to build the CSN Westside Education and Training Center in Ward 5.
- The next major capital improvement project involves a partnership between CSN and the City of Henderson to establish a workforce center of excellence in advanced manufacturing of approximately 50,000 square feet. The current plan is to have the facility built within the footprint of the Haas development enterprise so that it would be accessible to Haas workers as well as CSN students. CSN is working on finalizing the Memorandum of Agreement and Haas is interested in naming rights.
- CSN will also be aggressively pursuing funding opportunities to build the Northwest Campus and Sahara West Training Center projects.
- CSN will hold an in-person commencement on May 15th at 6pm at Sam Boyd Stadium. More than 1,000 students are expected to walk across the stage. In total, over 3,800 students earned degrees and certificates from CSN and over 5,000 total awards including skills certificates by the end of the academic year.
- Chair Robison extended an invitation for all IAC members to attend CSN's graduation.
- Mr. Peterson commended CSN for its efforts in the creation of the advanced manufacturing center of excellence. Chair Robison echoed Mr. Peterson's comments.

- Mr. Buchanan asked where the information in Dr. Zaragoza’s remarks could be found, and Dr. Zaragoza responded that they would be made available to the IAC members.

5. *CSN’s Budget Reduction Plan*

CSN Vice President of Finance Mary Kaye Bailey provided an update on the CSN portion of the NSHE state budget (*also see PowerPoint presentation*):

- CSN’s FY21 budget was reduced by about \$21.4 million. The Governor recommended \$103 million for CSN in each year of the next biennium.
- CSN made budget reductions totaling 12% (about \$12.8 million) in the areas of frozen positions, operating accounts, and travel accounts. Investment income distributions helped to offset the budget reductions, and HEERF funding will also help.
- During the legislative session, there were many questions regarding capacity enhancement funding and caseload growth funding. The Governor recommended \$6 million in caseload growth funding and \$5.8 million in capacity funding in each year of the biennium.
- During the budget closing on May 6th, the legislature approved the Governor’s recommended budget. CSN’s caseload and formula were kept intact and thus CSN will receive the \$6 million in caseload growth funding. The legislature made clear that these would be the final years of this program and the funds would not be part of CSN’s ongoing budget.
- Mr. Newsome congratulated and thanked Ms. Kihuen for her work at the legislature. Assemblywoman Carlton previously asked about caseload growth and Mr. Newsome asked if there were any updates. VP Bailey responded that caseload growth is measured by the weighted student credit hours between even fiscal years, and the Governor’s recommended budget included caseload growth between FY18 and FY20 where there was significant growth. The legislators were concerned because there was a down year due to of the pandemic, but CSN believes that the down year is an anomaly, and the caseload is a catch-up from FY20. Dr. Zaragoza commended Ms. Kihuen for her work with the legislators.
- Chair Robison asked, “In regards to capacity enhancement. what kinds of questions or concerns were raised?” VP Bailey responded that this was the third session that these capacity enhancement funds were brought forward and legislators were concerned when the funding request would stop. The legislators wanted to make sure CSN understood it would not be recurring. Dr. Zaragoza added that the legislators were concerned that the institutions would receive one-time funding and not be able to sustain the programs beyond the period. Chair Robison asked, “How does that dovetail with the experience we’ve had in the pandemic and the renewed focus on workforce development and particularly those industry areas that we’ve listed in terms of capacity enhancement funding?” Dr. Zaragoza responded that the legislature was trying to bring closure to the investment conversations from a couple sessions ago that were intended to transition to self-sufficiency. Chair Robison also asked, “Are you hearing anything about additional funding or opportunities because of the influx of money coming through?” Dr. Zaragoza responded that CSN is cautiously optimistic that there may be other opportunities to go back and make up for some of the budget reductions. There are other CIP projects that CSN would like to work on if funding becomes available.

6. *2021 Legislative Session Overview*

CSN Director of Government Affairs, Mariana Kihuen, provided an overview of the 2021 legislative session (*see PowerPoint presentation and CSN Day at the Legislature video*):

- There are 21 out of 120 days left in the legislative session. As soon as CSN learned that Chairwoman Carlton was asking about caseload, Dr. Zaragoza and Ms. Kihuen expedited the process of meeting with legislators to discuss priorities. They distributed informative one pagers with the legislative priorities, caseload, and accelerated programs.

- Ms. Kihuen will continue to send the NSHE Weekly Updates on the 2021 Legislative Session to the IAC, which includes a bill tracker.
- The CSN Day at the Legislature was held virtually on April 7th and was successful. Students met with thirteen legislators. Ms. Kihuen commended Student Affairs Director Brian Akins and students who began a social media campaign, which included tagging legislators a week in advance as well as a link to the CSN Day at the Legislature video (www.CSN.edu/CSNDay). The video's premiere was attended by over 40 students, Regent Del Carlo, and Regent Carvalho. The video, which was professionally created, featured Governor Sisolak, Attorney General Ford, Senator Denis, Assemblyman McArthur, and Superintendent Jara. Ms. Kihuen thanked everyone who worked on the video, including Eric Garner, Keem Ibarra, and Michelle Word.
- [15 minute clip of the CSN Day at the Legislature video was played for the IAC.]
- The Nevada Promise Scholarship passed with a \$7.3 million request, and the Prison Education Program will go to full committee on May 13th with a request of requested \$150,000.
- CSN is actively seeking and applying for grants and federal appropriations for the Sahara West Workforce & Education Training Center, and meeting with Assemblyman McArthur and Senator Hammond and actively seeking public/private partnership for the Northwest Campus.
- Ms. Kihuen thanked Frank Woodbeck and the Vegas Chamber for their advocacy of expansion of non-traditional pathways, and also thanked Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs James McCoy and the Vegas Chamber for their advocacy of the grow and diversify dual enrollment pathways which will be heard next in the Assembly Ways & Means Committee.
- Mr. Buchanan thanked everyone involved with the CSN Day at the Legislature video, as it was well done and served as a good introduction to discussions at the legislature.
- Mr. Newsome said he was impressed by the video and is excited for all that is happening at CSN. He also congratulated Dr. Zaragoza and his leadership for winning the award for Hope for Prisoners. During the presidential search process, Mr. Newsome was impressed by Dr. Zaragoza's creativity.
- Chair Robison said he agreed with Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Newsome on the quality of the video.

7. Update from ASCSN Student Body President

Student Body President, Karli McFarling-Kelly provided a report on student activities and issues of interest, including how students are managing the pandemic:

- Ms. McFarling-Kelly said it has been an honor to have served with the IAC Members.
- ASCSN was proud of all of the events it hosted in spite of the pandemic, including challenges to win money, prize giveaways, Latinx and African-American heritage month recognitions, and a Super Smash Brothers tournament. The last event will be an upcoming talent show.
- ASCSN donated over \$130,000 to the student emergency fund.
- A recent student interest has been the COVID vaccine mandate proposal, and Vice President & Provost of the Henderson Campus Patty Charlton spoke with ASCSN last week.
- ASCSN is looking forward to hosting events on campus in the fall.
- Ms. McFarling-Kelly congratulated and introduced ASCSN President-Elect Zachary Johnigan,
- Ms. McFarling-Kelly thanked Ms. Kihuen, Dr. Zaragoza, Interim VP McCoy, and everyone who helped her throughout her presidency.
- Dr. Zaragoza thanked Ms. McFarling-Kelly for her leadership and for serving as a voice for the students. Ms. Kihuen agreed with Dr. Zaragoza and said it was a pleasure to work with her.
- President-Elect Johnigan said he is excited to attend the meeting and looks forward to working with the IAC. He was active in the CSN Day at the Legislature and recognized the importance of CSN's legislative priorities. He also noted that the ASCSN Vice President-Elect was a beneficiary of the Prison Education Program.

8. Update from CSN's Faculty Senate Chair

Faculty Senate Chair, Dr. Maria Schellhase, provided a report on Faculty Senate activities and issues of interest, including how faculty are managing the pandemic:

- The last Faculty Senate meeting occurred on May 7th, and the faculty reminisced on everything that has happened over the last year. Faculty have been busy as they now look to return to campus in the fall.
- The Faculty Senate passed 10 policies throughout the last year and seven are in the pipeline for review. The new policy platform will help to track policies and move them from one approver to the next.
- The Faculty Senate website was also reimagined and contains numerous valuable resources for faculty.
- The new digital tenure portal allowed faculty to apply for tenure electronically, and due to positive feedback, it may remain as part of the tenure process.
- The new voting portal for use at Faculty Senate meetings may also be used moving forward.
- Faculty made videos and Dr. Schellhase sent emails to legislators and Regents so that they knew of the positive things that faculty are accomplishing. Dr. Schellhase acknowledged the Legislative Action Committee and Dr. Sondra Cosgrove for their efforts this legislative session.
- Dr. Schellhase acknowledged Interim VP McCoy for his assistance in preserving sabbaticals for faculty, and also thanked Dr. Zaragoza for his efforts.
- The Faculty Senate Manual was also reimagined.
- Dr. Schellhase thanked Dr. Zaragoza and commented how Dr. Zaragoza faced a difficult year with courage, and was always available to listen.
- Dr. Zaragoza thanked Dr. Schellhase for her leadership and for making CSN a better institution and him a better president.
- Chair Robison thanked Dr. Schellhase for her energy and passion over the last year.

9. IAC Member Spotlight

Shaundell Newsome provided a brief report on why he serves and how he can support the work of CSN and the IAC:

- Mr. Newsome thanked God for the leadership opportunities that have been afforded to him, including the recent New York Times feature story. He noted that it all started for him when he enlisted in the Air Force in 1986 and was selected to serve at Nellis.
- Mr. Newsome was enrolled at CSN on the Cheyenne Campus and had to go back on base for remote classes. This gave him an opportunity to go to school while serving the nation, and to earn a Community College of the Air Force degree.
- For the last 15 years, his business has hosted CSN interns to provide them with the real-life experience. He is also now working with Workforce Connections to bring in additional interns.
- Chair Robison thanked Mr. Newsome for all that he does and said that it is a pleasure to serve on the IAC with him.
- Ms. Kihuen also thanked Mr. Newsome for his service.

10. New Business

Chair Robison called for new business. There was no new business.

11. Public Comment

Chair Robison called for public comment. There was no public comment.

- Mr. Evans congratulated and thanked Dr. Zaragoza, Ms. Kihuen, and the entire CSN team for getting the College through 2020 and for situating it on a solid platform in 2021. The Urban Chamber enjoys partnering with CSN.

- Mr. Cruz congratulated Dr. Zaragoza and the CSN team for doing a great job in a difficult year. Workforce Connections is also proud to partner with CSN.
- Mr. Buchanan expressed the City of Henderson's gratitude for the partnership it continues to enjoy and expand with CSN.
- Mr. Guzman commended Dr. Zaragoza for his leadership and for being the perfect person at the perfect time for the position; Dr. Zaragoza has made a major impact on the community.
- Ms. Kihuen encouraged IAC members who want to attend CSN's graduation to reach out to her.

12. Adjourn

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 12:55pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Stephanie Knoblach

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