

**Great Basin College**  
**FACULTY SENATE 2022-2023**  
**Friday, March 17, 2023**  
**9:00 am**  
**Draft Minutes**

**1. Roll Call:**

**Samuel Lackey, Dean Straight, Thomas Bruns (Proxy Matt Nichols), Veronica Nelson, Madison Arbillaga, Brian Dankowski, Jamie Wilkerson, Karrie Barrett, Tami Potter, Eric Walsh, Ping Wang, Konstantinos Travlos, Tawny Crum (Proxy Jason Brick), Ryan Hathaway, Brenda Gonzales (Proxy Meachell Walsh), Kimberly Noah, Donald Jones (Proxy Tim Beasley)**

**Absent Voting Representatives: Glen Tenney, Duncan Morris, Daniel Bergey**

**Other members present: Kevin Seipp (Chair), Dave Sexton (Vice-Chair), Nick Cooley, Erica Salazar, Laurie Walsh, John Rice, Eleanor O'Donnell, Trina Castonguay, Jared Keller, Jen Stieger, Ethan Hawkley, Sam Leyba, Deanna Hamilton, Michelle Husbands, Laura Debenham, Xunming Du, Lizette Lyon, Krishna Subedi, Mardell Dorsa, Steven Hrdlicka, Jessica Lynch, Oscar Sida.**

**Others Present: President Helens, Vice President Rivera, Kimberly Myers**

**2. Call to Order: 9:03am**

**3. Updates from President Helens –**

Congrats to our newly tenured faculty. President Helens asked if there were any questions regarding her email of updates she sent out. A member asks for an update on the Governor's proposed budget and for pay raises for faculty and staff, and second question is where graduation will be held. President Helens doesn't have anything specific from the Governor's office. Nothing is for certain yet, but word is that NSHE will not be included, even though NSHE is included in furloughs. It's important when faculty leadership show at the Legislature, and Kevin Seipp will be going to Carson City to attend. Doesn't have a definitive answer; will wait until Kevin returns from Carson City.

The Graduation Committee is meeting soon and details of graduation locations will be emailed out to all campuses. A member from the Committee confirms that Elko's graduation will be held here on campus. Winnemucca's at the Boy's and Girl's Club. Ely is undecided. Pahrump's details will be on the website.

**4. Updates from Vice President of AA/SA, Jake Hinton-Rivera – Boards of Regents meeting.**

All curriculum requests were approved: AS degree in Computer Technology for Network Specialists; GBC organizational unit change - Business and Computer Technology will now be separate from CTE along with Online Education; 2 Mining certificates were approved – one for 33 credit hours and the other for 17 credit hours; 2 other curriculum items were approved and will need Board of Regents' approval – the Mining Center of Excellence was approved by AAC and moves forward to Board, and the last item approved was a program elimination for AAS Computer Technology for Graphic Communication, which will move forward to the Board for approval.

Congrats to our newly tenured faculty. Career fair April 19<sup>th</sup> at the Fitness Center. First time we are partnering with Greater Nevada Credit Union who will be hosting a financial session called "Bite of Reality".

GBC did receive another \$455,000 in SANDI Grant funding. If there are any workforce certificate programs – can be non-credit or credit – that are not currently receiving any SANDI Grant funding for their students, get in contact with Vice President Rivera. SANDI Grant funding want to know if there are any additional programs GBC would like to fund.

**5. Senate Chair Report – Verbal Report:**

Collective Bargaining Bill AB 224 – Chancellor has reached out to all Senate Chairs for sense of faculty support or not support of AB 224, mostly for testimony to take back to the Legislature when they discuss this bill. Please respond to Chair Seipp's email regarding your decision to support or not support. Kent

Ervin drafted a condensed version of AB 224 for review. Chair Seipp will send out the link after this meeting.

GBC and NSC are the only two in Nevada that do not have Collective Bargaining. This bill will put into law that every campus will have the right to Collective Bargaining.

One member asks: Do department heads fall under managerial employees as defined in section 12.2.a in NSHE Code? Answer is uncertain and will be addressed later.

NFA is 100% supportive of the AB 224 bill.

One member asks if AB 224 bill is essentially a state version of the National Labor Relations Act, specifically for state employees? Answer is uncertain but the bill will be a law that will now give us that right as professional employees of NSHE, so it might be structured very closely to the National Labor Relations Act.

New AB 268 will provide retention incentives to state employees. NSHE was cut out entirely. The vote passed out of assembly 42 – 0. Everyone in the democratic assembly supported the exclusion of NSHE. On Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, it will head into the Senate Finance Committee and will be up for discussion. NSHE is viewed as a whole, and because NSHE is exempt from a law saying that state employees are not allowed to make more than 95% of the governor’s salary, they might be using this as grounds for exclusion. However, 75% of NSHE make *less* than almost *half* of the governor.

One member mentioned that Community Colleges with Collective Bargaining are receiving the retention incentive, which is another benefit for pursuing Collective Bargaining for GBC.

Another member clarified that amongst the democratic assembly vote of 42 – 0 to exclude NSHE from AB 268 included our President.

Encourage reaching out to your representatives, both senators and assembly, to express your thoughts in this decision regarding the exclusion of NSHE.

A member asks if it would help to have a vote from the senate if we are all in favor today? They want to make a concession that everyone who doesn’t make more than the governor would be eligible for the retention incentive and exclude all those who do make more than the governor. Another member does not support the compromise, as the governor’s salary is a token one and he doesn’t depend on his salary.

Chair Seipp, as Senate Chair and voice of the faculty at GBC, asks a sense of the Senate of him traveling to Carson City to testify in the Senate Finance Committee in support of adding NSHE back into AB 268. All members at present were in favor of Chair Seipp traveling to Carson City.

Chair Seipp will be sure to update everyone. The Legislature is trying to move this bill very quickly, because the first payments are scheduled to distribute on March 31<sup>st</sup> and June 16<sup>th</sup>, so we have to stay on top of it.

Great return rate on the NFA survey. The website for the survey and results is: [nevadafacultyalliance.org](http://nevadafacultyalliance.org). Response results were close to last survey.

**6. Approval of February 17, 2023, minutes - For Possible Action:**

**A motion to approve the minutes of February 17, 2023, was made by Ryan Hathaway a, seconded by Donald Jones. Motion passed unanimously.**

**7. Standing Committee Reports:**

a. Academic Standards & Assessment..... **Written Report**

**i. Report – Information Only**

b. Bylaws..... **Written/ Verbal Report**

**i. Report – Information Only**

*The attached document is for review and possible action in April with any changes that may be discussed.*

Bylaws is proposing 3 changes to Bylaws:

- i. Mission statement that says the Bylaws are a governing document and it supersedes anything else on the GBC website.
- ii. The Senate Faculty does not write reports for administration.
- iii. Bylaws may be reviewed by administration, but they do not approve.

**Will discuss and come back next month for possible action.**

Look at your webpages and make sure they are up to date, so we have the most accurate information to the public.

- c. Compensation & Benefits.....**Written Report**
    - i. **Report – Information Only**
  - d. Curriculum Review..... **Written Report**
    - i. **Report- Information Only**
  - e. Instructional Technology.....**Written Report**
    - i. **Report – Information Only**
  - f. General Education Committee.....**Written Report**
    - i. **Report – Information Only**
  - g. Personnel.....**Written Report**
    - Report – Information Only**
  - h. Strategic Planning, ad hoc..... **No Report**
- 8. Unfinished Business: None.**
- 9. New Business: It is time to look for a new Vice-Chair – looking for nominations and will vote in May. Nominees will need to be present at the meeting to accept.**
- 10. Information Items:**
- i. **Reminder: Emeritus applications are due at the end of the month.**
  - ii. **Volunteers needed for the Outstanding Student Awards. Please contact Ryan Hathaway. If we get more submissions, we have more of a reason to put these on.**
- 11. Announcements: Vice-Chair is starting to work on committee assignments for next year and will be sending out a survey before summer. Moving forward with zoom but would like for everyone to try to be here. Asks that zoom is only used for special reasons.**
- If you have any questions about NFA or would like to join, please reach out to John Rice.**
- 12. Good of the Order:**
- 13. Adjournment.....Action:**
- Konstantinos Travlos moved to adjourn. 9:43am.**