

**Great Basin College
FACULTY SENATE 2024-2025
Friday, January 24, 2025
9:00 am**

Elko –GTA 130; Ely – GBC 118; Pahrump- PVC 122; Winnemucca – GBC 123/124.

MINUTES

1. **Roll Call:** Roll Call: Steven Hrdlicka, Dean Straight (Proxy for Tim Esh), Abigail Loya, Christopher Salute, Madison Arbillaga, Dorothy Callander, Jamie Carlson, Merrick Mildrum (Proxy for Tami Potter), Eleanor O'Donnell, Ping Wang, Kara Coates, Stephanie Davis, Jason Brick, Kristin Heath, Amer Ogle, Kimberly Noah, Roger Quijada

Absent Representatives: Tiffany Ross

Other Members Present: Dave Sexton (Chair), Oscar Sida (Vice Chair), Jonathan Foster, Xunming Du, Ethan Hawkey, John Rice, Laura Debenham, Amy Smith, Yvonne Naungayan, Erica Salazar, Sheree Beard, Sheila Staszak, David Antonini, Shemayne Pitts, Krishna Subedi, Jenny Ahlvers, Michelle Beecher, Becky Coleman, Rita Pujari, Leah Johnson, Gerardo Wence-Munoz, Daniel Murphree, Gail Rappa, Mardell Dorsa, Sarah Massie, Eric Anderson

Others present: Vice President Sarah Negrete, Dean Mary Doucette, Dean David Stoddard, Dean Karl Stevens, Elizabeth Stanley, Shay West, Sharon Butterfield, Kimberly Myers

2. **Call to Order: 10:01 AM**
3. **Approval of November 21, 2024 minutes - For Possible Action**

A motion to approve the November 21, 2024 minutes was by Jamie Carlson, seconded by Dean Straight. Motion passed unanimously.

4. **Standing Committee Reports:**

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| a. Academic Standards & Assessment..... | No Report |
| b. Bylaws..... | Written Report |
| c. Compensation & Benefits..... | No Report |
| d. Curriculum Review..... | No Report |
| e. Instructional Technology..... | No Report |
| f. Gen Ed Committee..... | No Report |
| g. Personnel..... | Written Report |
| h. Equipment Awards Advisory Group..... | Action Items |

- i. [Equipment Advisory Awards Spreadsheet](#) – For Possible Action

A motion to approve the Equipment Awards was by Jamie Carlson, seconded by Stephanie Davis. Motion approved unanimously.

5. **Senate Chair Report – No report.**

6. **Special Guests:**

President Dr. Amber Donelli – President Donelli discussed the need to reevaluate the Salary Equity Adjustment, which was last updated in 2013. A report submitted in 2023 claimed to have examined salaries and indicated that due to our budgets, any adjustments would create a hardship on the institution and could lead to hiring freezes or eliminations.

President Donelli's suggestion was to form a committee to examine salary equity and make sure there aren't any inadequacies or inequities. The committee will need to reevaluate the plan and ensure all is in line with the budget that GBC will propose to the Board of Regents for the next two years. President Donelli needs to send the report from the committee to the BOR in June, so the committee will need to complete their report and have the Senate vote on it in April.

Compensation & Benefits Chair Dr. John Rice will also chair the Salary Equity Committee. He has already reached out for members and would like to have reps from every area of the college. He is open for anyone who is interested. Contact Chair Rice or Senate Chair Sexton.

President Donelli will know more about what GBC's budget will look like and how NSHE will be funded within the coming months based on the budget hearings. If there are any changes to be made, it may be something that is phased in, and there is also the financial impact of the institution as a whole to consider.

Reach out to President Donelli with any questions.

President Donelli would like to share her appreciation for everyone who attended and was involved in the CollegeCon.

Chancellor Patty Charlton – Chancellor Charlton wishes she could be in person but is sporting her GBC shirt for the meeting. She begins by expressing the importance of rural colleges and the financial constraints they face. She mentions a strong voice for rural colleges on the BOR now: Pete Goicoechea.

One of the highlights at the pre-session Legislative Budget meeting she and President Donelli attended earlier that week was to celebrate Nevada's enrollment rates and graduation. GBC leads the graduation rates with 51%! Huge congratulations to everyone!

Chancellor Charlton highlights the budget and mentions that the number one priority is to build back the budget from the COLA increases and address the unfunded portion. They have a comprehensive understanding of the budget formula, and with that information, they submitted a funding allocation. The request was of 20 million dollars per year over the biennium. There is also support from the governor's office for a one-time funding for Public Safety.

The Strategic Plan for NSHE has been approved at the Special Board Meeting, which is just the start of the conversation. They have a good framework to start from, and a strategic plan if done correctly, will be guided by continuous improvement. GBC will host the Board in September.

Chancellor search underway, as Chancellor Charlton is our interim chancellor, and it should be wrapped up at the start of the new fiscal year.

Chancellor Charlton would like to extend her gratitude to everyone at GBC, and then opens to the floor for questions or feedback.

A member asks about the executive order regarding DEI at the federal level.

The executive mandate was specifically for the federal agencies and does not apply to our organizational structures. However, there was a heavy lift on recent Title 9 changes, which caused the 2024 regulations to be completely rescinded. They will have to be reverted back. We are navigating that communication and general counsel support.

Chair Sexton asked about the issue regarding health coverage. Chancellor Charlton answered that PEBP was going to make some changes to the health coverage and eliminate the HMO, but this has been tabled because of the voices of faculty and staff that carried a lot of impact in helping this be diverted. She does add that this doesn't mean that they won't come back with it next year, so be vigilant.

Chapter 6 Termination policy will be circling back to Faculty Senate. Shared governance is very important.

Chancellor Charlton needs the help of faculty and staff to voice the importance of what we do. GBC voices are going to be very important in navigating the landscape. Take every opportunity to participate.

Chancellor Charlton will be here before commencement in May but will also attend commencement. She will also try to visit the other sites as well.

7. **Unfinished Business: None.**

8. **New Business:** February 21st is a Mental Health Expo at the Leonard Center from 10am – 2pm.

9. **Information Items:** March 1st is the deadline for Professional Development.

Vector training is going well. It is at 80%, which makes GBC leading the state. Arysta Sweat would like to thank everyone for participating.

Please do the short survey for Continuing Education. Also, fitness center classes start next week, so sign up soon!

10. **Announcements:** Chicago will present in March!

11. **Good of the Order: None.**

12. **Adjournment: 11:54am**