College of Southern Nevada Institutional Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 20, 2023

Welcome, call to order and roll call.

The regular meeting of the Institutional Advisory Council was called to order at 9:04 am.

Roll was called:

PRESENT

ABSENT

Chair Randy Robison
Vice Chair Peter Guzman
Federico Zaragoza
Dr. Nancy Brune
Jaime Cruz
Paul J. Moradkhan
Shaundell Newsome
Jose Solorio
Maria Jose Gatti
Patrick Villa (Ex Officio)
Pio Rejas (Ex Officio)

President Zaragoza, Chief of Staff Lawrence Weekly, VP Clarissa Cota, VP James McCoy, VP Rebecca Gates, VP Sonya Pearson, CAI Margo Martin, AVC/NSHE Natalie Brown, Frank Woodbeck, Danita Simon, Raymond Defilippis, Mugunth Vaithylingam, Jim Ferrence, Lise’ Wyman, Annette Lord.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

The Chair dispensed with the pledge as there was no flag present. The chair asked Lise’ Wyman to give a quick bio on herself as a new addition to the IAC, assisting the President. She did so and went over her background as a lobbyist, CSN Professor of Political Science & Communications, and Political Fundraiser, etc.

Minutes were discussed and there were no objections to them.

The Chair also advised the attendees that this meeting was being recorded.

2. REVIEW CHARTER
Council Chair Robison and CSN President Zaragoza provided welcome remarks and review of the new charter and membership. The Chair talked about how the BOR wants to recertify the IAC’s at each college around the state. He discussed the expansion of the IAC at CSN. He then gave the floor to Dr. Zaragoza who thanked the Chair, members and guests in attendance and then gave a detailed presentation of the IAC, inclusive of the historical background of its inception. Dr. Zaragoza discussed the Background, Composition and Responsibilities, the Membership, and the IAC Purpose. All of this can be reviewed in the power point presentation, click below:

CSN-IAC – July 20, 2023
Meeting Agenda

(1) Public Comment
(2) Review of Charter
(3) Appoint Nominating Committee – For Action
(4) NSHE Report
(5) Strategic Plan Overview
(6) Legislative Update
(7) Introduction Pio Riojas, CSN Student Body President
(8) Introduce CSN Patrick Villa, Faculty Senate Chair
(9) IAC Member Spotlight
(10) Next Meeting Date
(11) New Business
(12) Public Comment
(13) Adjourn

Background: The Chancellor’s Office conducted an informal review of the provisions establishing the operations of the community college IAC’s to determine if the councils are meeting and if the revision of the provisions governing the IAC’s are necessary.

Many leaders indicated their desire to maintain the IAC’s, and agreed to allow each college leadership of the President, to define the role of the IAC.

NSHE Community Colleges were asked to submit new proposals for BOR approvals.

1. A founding membership roster that reflects the desired representation of the council, is also appropriately diverse to ensure broad input from the community.
2. The number and composition of the membership; and
3. The purpose and the role of the council.

President Zaragoza detailed the membership of the committee, breakdowns of representations and the additional members. The fact that the IAC operates under Open Meeting Law for example, how often the board meets, etc. If a council member misses 3 consecutive regular meetings, they may be replaced at the discretion of the chair. An absence can be excused for good cause for example.

Membership approved by the BOR is as follows:

The Founding members represent critical sectors as follows:

- 5 Business, Industry and Chamber Organizations,
- 3 Community Based Representatives
- 1 Local Workforce Board
- 1 Public Education
- 2 Municipalities
- 2 Ex-Officio Members
President Zaragoza showed the current list of members and vacancies and talked about the need for community representation on the board in much detail and then talked about the need for a nominating committee to reach out to community members to fulfil these vacancies. Jose Solorio and Peter Guzman pointed out that the council members were ambassadors for the college. Peter pointed out that in that role the members don’t make decisions for CSN but provide insights and ideas to the President. He further pointed out that although we are an advisory council, we are here to help CSN to achieve its goals and mission in the various ways that we can do so, as CSN is so important to the community. Chair Robison moved on to Agenda item number 3.

3. **APPOINT NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR MEMBERSHIP**

Chair Randy Robison said a nominating committee would now be announced and the group would discuss openings on the IAC, and that these were suggestions to review as there were categories of community members that needed to be added to the council. It was pointed out by the Chair and President Zaragoza that the purpose of this item was to put together a small but mighty nominating committee that would help the council fill out the membership. Those appointed to the committee by the Chair were as follows: Shaundell Newsome, Chair, Paul Moradkhana, Jaime Cruz, Dr. Nancy Brune. The goal of this committee was to develop and return to the September 2023 meeting with a strong list of folks to recommend for the Council Membership per Dr. Zaragoza. As the Council discussed this matter, the President asked the members if there were any categories, he they thought might have been missed, as far as possible membership. Dr. Brune suggested Native American Representation, Job re-entry program representation and Women’s Chamber. There were comments regarding prison education programs and re-entry programs.

A question was posed to the group at this time, by the President if there were any categories that might have been missed in the type of vacancies and it was further asked what areas of business and industry that most of our students gravitate to?

Dr. Zaragoza pointed out that the vast majority of our students are college transfers. Many are here for the two-year programs and workforce students were discussed. He then gave the floor to Dr. James McCoy.

At this point Dr. James McCoy pointed out some of CSN’s most popular programs such as Health Science, Allied Health, skilled trades—especially HVAC, manufacturing, welding, automotive technologies, green space, cyber security that are all booming. Also, all the IT sectors from cyber security, to networking, software, etc. It was noted James would be giving a presentation later in the agenda with more details on some of these programs. Student demands are where the jobs are. The college is then setting the students up for success in jobs that exist in the market.

Chair Randy mentioned the members had good suggestions. Paul pointed out the Council just has to look at the data. Jose had mentioned having representatives from other institutions. President Zaragoza said we work closely with the other Nevada institutions, that they don’t have to be actual committee members, but they are welcome to the meetings of course if they want to contribute.

There was a motion to approve the nominating committee. A second was given by Peter Guzman. There was a vote with no further discussion, although asked for, and the motion was approved unanimously.

4. **NSHE REPORT**
Chairman Robison introduced Assistant Vice Chancellor for Workforce Development and Community Colleges, Dr. Natalie Brown, who provided an update on NSHE activities. See links below.

- MGM College Opportunity Program [https://nshe.nevada.edu/mgm-employees/](https://nshe.nevada.edu/mgm-employees/)
- Project SANDI [https://sandi.nevada.edu/](https://sandi.nevada.edu/)

Dr. Brown pointed out the busy year that occurred and the impact of various legislation from the state legislature. She was happy about the progress of the IAC being approved. She gave examples of the Senate bill that approved 10 million for Nursing. She thanked Dr. Zaragoza and the Council for all their hard work. She pointed out at the June Board Meeting that applications for advanced manufacturing and computer information technologies were approved. She thanked CSN, those that were involved in that task and Dr. McCoy for their work on this. She talked about opportunities that existed to still apply for different funds and different opportunities that will be reported later. She talked in detail about how MGM Resorts and NSHE are proud to offer College Opportunity Program (COP) to employees of MGM Resorts. COP provides access to an online certificate and college degree programs at no cost to MGM Resorts employees.

Dr. Brown also brought up the Sandi Program. Supporting and Advancing Nevada’s Dislocated Individuals. This is the US Department of Education’s Education Fund. Reimagine Workforce Preparation, Discretionary grants. Provides Nevada with the opportunity to assist thousands of adults and dislocated workers who have been adversely affected by the pandemic.

She pointed out that there are still many opportunities to apply for various funds for different programs.

She pointed out that the fee schedule was approved for 2024 and 2025 in March by the Board and that this was a good thing. The board was very supportive. She said CSN was one of the largest institutions hosting the COP Grant. Also, the Sandi Grants fund up to $5,000 per student. Although they are going into the final year for the Sandi Grant Project, as it will sunset, CSN Navigators have been busy recruiting and collaborating with NSHE staff to make sure they can support as many students as possible through that. Also, she brought up bill 375 and the $10 million per year allocation.

Jose asked questions about the different programs and Chairman Robison asked some funding questions. Dr. Brune made a few comments on continued funding. Chairman Randy asked if there were any more questions on item 4. Hearing none, he moved on to the next agenda item.

5. **STRATEGIC PLAN OVERVIEW**

While the power point was being set up, President Zaragoza discussed budget issues. Before going into that, he specifically thanked all the council members, as the Chair did earlier, regarding their comments of support and engagement. He mentioned that many were on his search and hiring committee. He thanked the group for the opportunity to be part of the CSN family and that is has been an honor. He said he believed we are becoming the institution that we had talked about during the search process. He further mentioned that he wanted to identify
a few of the major items that the Council was going to be hearing about from us as we move forward this year. That this meeting is primarily organizational in nature, but there are a lot of major issues on the horizon in higher education at CSN. So, we will be bringing some areas for the Council’s guidance as we address the major challenges. He identified budget pressures that the college still must recover from.

The Covid pandemic affected enrollment across the country. CSN was about 16%, although many community colleges across the country were affected about 20%. In our case, that was about 16.6 million less per year in terms of state support and tuition.

We were significantly affected by that as the state of Nevada, in higher education, primarily has these two revenue sources of state support and tuition fees.

We were blessed to bring in $28 million for funding. So, as we look at the 2024 fiscal year, we are going to be in a position where we think we have a bridge budget that will serve as well. But again, depending on decisions that are made, it is going to create some other budget considerations for FY25.

We are still dealing with a declining enrollment area. So, what does the next fiscal year look like if we don’t grow and you don’t have any federal funds in to plug holes. So, the President said he wanted to put that in the back of everyone’s mind, as a possible scenario in terms of sustainability.

Another area is the workforce capacity funding as part of the budget and at the institutional level that translated the line items for each one of the institutions this go around.

The President pointed out that we were still working through how that was going to impact us, but we made an analysis about half of what we were expecting out, what is going to be available to us, and we still must codify that work. So right now, we have a $5 million kind of pressure point we’re looking at and that we are working on now.

He pointed out the Board’s vote on the 12% increase, which all the college presidents and institutions supported. We believe in our faculty and staff diversity. We need to get ourselves to market rates as soon as possible and that 12% was a big boost. The downside is that we were funded @ 65%, as opposed to the 80% we were hoping for. So, we are going to have to find that and we have already submitted a plan. The includes freezing about 50 positions and other things. We have a budget and a task force internally working on that issue already. So, this then can translate to about an 8.7 million gap on COLA.

This is a big issue but there is a possibility that the board could approve up to 11% additional and again, that can move forward to discussion.

The President said that he just wanted to mention this as it is up to 11%. We will benefit from the input of the Council. A question came up from the board members regarding the 50 positions. The President pointed out reasons why positions are sometimes not filled. Due to possible failed searches, or supervisors that can be holding on to positions. He pointed out you have positions that are allocated to institutions and that they are needed. So, there are always positions that are blocked and unfilled.
The consequence of this of course is that these positions are needed in the institution and whenever you have budget reductions, it has an impact on our ability to serve students. He did not want to undermine the importance of this but of course it affects the college in some ways as mentioned. But we are not eliminating the positions, this is just phasing. The other is because of declining enrollment, 16.6 million is lost. Peter Guzman asked for some examples of this, and they were discussed.

If we go back to pre-covid levels, we will be fine. This is a critical period right now. Reduction will cause us to work on alignment. The President pointed out that we have an internal budget adjustment task force at work on these issues with stakeholders. So, every one of the CSN stakeholder groups has a vested interest and is part of this process. We will be bringing you those recommendations as we have in the past and we have benefitted from your guidance in the past. So, we are hopeful for that feedback again from the Council.

A question came up about how these reduced numbers affect grants and the President pointed out that although losing 5,000 students might be a 14-16% reduction, the grants asked about are self-funded. So, they are not affected by this deficit. They are in a different category.

The President pointed out that Frank Woodbeck was doing amazing work. We have about 20m million in contracts and grants that Frank and his team have brough to the Institution. We have a lot of activities that are going on that will help us reboot our growth as well. We are blessed to have Frank at the college.

Shaundell Newsome asked about programs and state funding.

Dr. Brune asked about how all of this affects instructors and instruction. Core competence was addressed. Questions concerning the reliance on more adjuncts as instructors. It was pointed out that we don’t want these budget constraints to affect our instructors, advising and customer support areas. Dr. James McCoy addressed the concerns. He pointed out that this fall and probably in the spring we are relying on more adjunct faculty in the areas where it is difficult to recruit full time faculty. He talked about the consequences of COLA. He gave the example of $37,000 being entry level for a professor with no experience and this is not a livable wage when you go up to 10 years of experience, for example.

The starting salary for a nurse with a doctorate is low as they make double in the nursing field at least. He pointed out that you can see our recruitment of pipeline as it relates to that salary schedule, and it is a tremendous issue in our ability not only to attract full-time faculty but to retain them. It is hard to fill many of the faculty positions for this reason. The Deans report to Dr. McCoy that they are told by applicants that the salaries are too low. We can’t control that since they are on a fixed schedule, but we can implement COLA, it was stated.

We are hoping that we can at least pay what the Clark County School District pays to their teachers to start at $50,000. This would be good if we could pay this to our college professors that are just starting. The President thanked Dr. McCoy for his explanation. He then talked about other major projects to move forward this year like the Center for Excellence, addressing the manufacturing needs in Southern Nevada. The President pointed out that when he first came here, he was asked as to how the College was going to meet the needs of these manufacturing
programs, when there were no plans, and he found a way to make this happen. Programs for any and all of the industries that we have. There were no CSN programs to respond to areas in the durable goods sector really. We now have level one programs, certificate programs, skilled certificates, and the ability to customize programs for credit or non-credit. We have state-of-the-art equipment to accommodate students.

They key is that the companies and the municipalities, when they are out recruiting, can have programs. When asked now if we have the capacity for a workforce? We can say yes, as we now have Mr. Flick who was running a center in Indiana. And, we have curriculum behind it.

Having a strong leader who understands these programs well is really going to be helpful. The Center for Excellence will bring great dividends for the community. This will be good for existing companies and for attracting additional companies. When I was first hired, it was said that we needed something like other communities to respond to the manufacturing sector. We had a grand opening, and I would like to emphasize that the model here is a partnership model. The City of Henderson funded the building and provided the land. We got several million dollars’ worth in equipment. We got a grant for 2 million and we have been able to supplement that with additional funding. This is the kind of ecosystem of the community. We all partnered to make this happen. Everyone was then invited to the opening in August.

Frank Woodbeck has been amazing in terms of developing the West Side Education Training Center. There had been discussion initially about what was wanted and needed. There was discussion about what we did in San Antonio with our Education Center which was targeted to underserved communities and to create pathways both into jobs that were created and also into education. Now, CSN is going to have a presence right on the West Side Historical District.

Broader vision, as we can connect and as more companies come to create training for residents, for those jobs. These are all stories you will hear more about as we move forward.

The NW Campus is now going to be a priority that you will hear about later today. There will be workforce expansion where we are basically aligning and growing the programs in the highest demand areas. Funding is an issue. Repositioning will be important.

Other areas we are excited about include how important it is to allow high school students to earn college credit. I am glad Peter is here for this. It is not just about earning college credit; it is about getting students in the pathways. We emphasize early colleges so the students in high school earn their associate degree while they are still in High School. That program will reach capacity in a year. For students more in the workforce pathway, we have the Air Conditioning Academy, for example, where young people are graduating with their credentials in HVAC, right out of high school.

Peter Guzman talked about the effectiveness of public/private partnerships. Also, about working with the mining industry. President Zaragoza mentioned that CSN is a catalyst for this conversation as well as other NSHE Institutions. He continued by pointing out that it is not just about growing enrollment numbers, but also areas in the community where we are underserved. CSN needs to be a voice in creating opportunities to help members of color in our community. These conversations have also been held with the superintendent. At this point the
President gave the floor to Dr. McCoy to discuss some areas more specifically and a power point was loaded. Dr. McCoy also shared with the group that he is celebrating 10 years in remission from cancer. Dr. Zaragoza and others congratulated him on this. Dr. McCoy talked about his family and how happy he is to be in this community.

Dr. McCoy asked the Chair if he remembered he and Dr. Zaragoza talked about the discussion in dual enrollment a few years back and pointed out that the institution has come far in accomplishing these things. Dr. McCoy pointed out Peter had said in the past that they should really dig deeper here. He also advised the council members to jot down any areas they would like more information on to address later down the road. Dr. McCoy was here to discuss four of the strategic themes through 2024 and that Dr. Martin helped lead this effort and that her team will reinforce our engagement in the next renumeration of our strategic plan, just around the corner.

He also talked about needing input of the council and a cross section of the community. Please see the following power point.

**Strategic Plan Themes**

1. **Student Access and Success.** Provide the best environment, programs, and support services to meet students’ personal, work, and educational needs and expectations. Close the achievement gap among underserved student populations. Improve completions and student success rates and increase the number of individuals with a post-secondary credential.

Dr. McCoy talked about working with Dr. Cota years ago on this concept.

Council member Shaundell Newsome talked about his school experience in New York, he talked about him and Peter bringing in interns and how they see what works in a program like this. It is great when you can get your associates degree while still in High School. Whether a young person wants to open their own business, or go to school, they now have options.

The Handshake program was brought up and discussed. Connecting students with real jobs and internships. The goal is to make every student aware of this and that they have access to this program. A question was asked if these programs were reaching the Latino and African American neighborhood’s and it was said that it was. It was mentioned that many employers are willing to do internships.
Dr. McCoy pointed out that these programs are in areas that they typically did not have access to before. He said that the data shows these areas are doing well and he would share data with any interested party.

Peter Guzman said these programs were the wave of the future. Jose Solorio commended the programs. Maria Jose Gatti talked about where she started. President Zaragoza talked about the job center synergy. Dr. McCoy brought up the fact that a million-dollar grant was just received for a Women’s Prison for inmates. Pell grants for prisoners, guided pathways, GED Dual credit programs were mentioned.

2. Engagement. Provide an inclusive and diverse environment that fosters lasting connection, shared investment, pride, and goodwill. Communicate, connect with and support students to increase new student enrollments, student engagement, and satisfaction with CSN’s family, culture, programs, and services.

Maria Jose Gatti brought up a situation where someone on her team, a workforce director, was trying to get help for someone on the opportunity scholarship. They could not get help and ran into a roadblock. She felt there should be a better system in place to help employers get access. She had to reach out to Frank and got help that way. She pointed out that students are interested and willing.

Shaundell Newsome brought up that 40 years ago it was different. He pointed out that we must give students practical experience as well as education and that communication is the key.

Maria pointed out that she started at CSN. She said there is plenty to go around right now. It is about making sure that our students know that programs are available. It is important to recruit students. She asked if the funding sources come from the private sector. She talked about the funding opportunities, the grants. She said it was a little difficult process from the point of the employer and help was needed here. Maria would like to see that addressed.

Dr. Zaragoza talked about the goal of each of our college being one of the job centers. Hubs, so employers could call and then you would have somebody in each college that could make the connection. You would need to have that synergy. When we work together, we are more responsive to the opportunity. We can’t afford to duplicate, and we can’t do it alone.

Dr. McCoy at this point proceeded to go through the rest of the power point presentation.

He covered Performance and Quality, Workforce and Community, Dual Enrollment Expansion, and different models. Prison Education Expansion, Guided Pathways Refinement, Expansion of CSN virtual campus, the Continuation of Improving Co-Requisite Math and English. Ways to reduce and close achievement Gaps, Continuation of Multi-Campus Approach, Double Down on Diversity, equity and Inclusion Strategies, CRM Management and Communication and more. (Please access the embedded power point for details about these and other categories.) Many council members were interested in the Mortuary program and the Forensic Accounting programs. At this point there were some technical problems in the recorded meeting but Dr. McCoy’s presentation is attached for further information and review. ** The chair told the Council and staff how much he appreciated them and all the hard work that went into the preparation of the comprehensive overviews. He pointed out that it was helpful in their roles so
that they could understand more of what the college was doing. Dr. McCoy and Dr. Zaragoza were thanked by the Chair in addition to Maria, Peter and Jose. He mentioned that lunch was provided on its way and then he moved on to item number 6.

6. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Dr. Weekley attended the meeting remotely as Frank Woodbeck and lobbyist Jim Ferrence addressed the council. Dr. Zaragoza acknowledged the fine work done by the team during the legislative session and commended them for it. The floor was then turned over to Jim and Frank. At this point Dr. Zaragoza wanted to make a few more comments before the presentation was started. He talked about how budget issues affected the placing of someone directly in government affairs, so this team was assembled, and he felt they had done a great job in keeping CSN relevant and that this led to much of our successes. Using primarily an internal team and Jim Ferrence as a consultant. Jim thanked Dr. Zaragoza and said he appreciated working with the team of Frank and Lawrence. He mentioned Frank was an asset and made contacts and was consistently in touch with the legislators, the Republicans. The Northwest, law enforcement and Metro, all played in here. Jim thanked Frank. Frank thanked Jim.

Frank talked about how enrollment decline from the pandemic affected CSN. That hit us very hard. Then of course was the issue of trying to recapture those funds from the state legislature being another factor.

Enrollment Recovery – AB491 made appropriations to NSHE for enrollment recovery at certain institutions impacted by the pandemic. CSN was awarded $12,139,324; however, the request was for $23,278,610.

Teacher Pathway – AB428 (Teacher Pipeline Bill) requires each large school district which has more than 100,000 pupils (CCSD and WCSD) “to offer a Teacher Academy College Pathway Program at every high school at the district with 250 pupils or more enrolled to enable pupils in grades 9 – 12 to prepare for employment in professions I K – 12 education...” Frank mentioned that this was the program that Dr. McCoy talked about earlier. Giving students in 9th through 12th grade a dual pathway into teaching if they chose to. They could begin their Senior year and continue through college training. This opens up a huge pipeline for talent going into the teaching profession.

Nursing Pathway – SB 375 “makes an appropriation to NSHE for a grant program to expand undergraduate and graduate nursing programs at institutions within the System”. The appropriation of $10,000,000 in each of the two fiscal years of the biennium. The Nursing Educator Pathway pilot program, which is a formal training program to prepare practicing nurses to educate nursing students, thus expanding the body of nursing educators. Dr. Brown had also talked about this program.

Frank mentioned that this program was prominently discussed during the testimony on this bill. During this testimony it was somewhat guaranteed that this program would fit under the grant program.
NV Grow Expansion – SB 126 provided for an increase in the appropriations for the NV grow program under CSN to develop, create, oversee and manage the NV Grow Program to provide certain informational and technical assistance to existing small businesses in this State that are expanding or ready to expand. The appropriation increased to $950,000 per year for the biennium. The NV Grow program is one of the programs under the CSN Entrepreneurship “umbrella” of services to small businesses, featuring those within underserved and underrepresented populations.

Frank then said, before I turn to Dr. Zaragoza to add his comments regarding the Northwest Campus & Center for Excellence in Public Safety, I wanted to share that CSN has undertaken pursuit of a number of initiatives which position us to serve underserved populations; establish and extend training pathways for the economic growth sectors of southern Nevada; and extend our education & training opportunities into “communities of need”, all within the vision established by Dr. Z. They include:

- The development of the CSN Westside Education & Training Center adjacent to the Historic Westside School, in partnership with the City of Las Vegas and funded by the U.S. Economic Development Administration and the City. This project has been designed and is currently in the permitting stage, with a projected groundbreaking of February 2024.
- The planned development of the CSN Eastside Education & Training Center proposed for construction on the site of the Desert Pines Golf Course, in partnership with the City of Las Vegas and the EDA. Application for funding a portion of this project is awaiting final approval by EDA.
- We are in discussions with the County to develop a higher education center in the southwest sector of the County.

These projects are structured to seek funding from the municipality and the federal government and operated by CSN in partnership with the municipality.

Dr. Clarissa Cota was commended for all the great work she was doing with the Blackstone Launch Pad Entrepreneurship Center. Frank mentioned that we are waiting to hear on a $3,000,000 Minority Business Development Agency Grant that was recommended to CSN by Congressman Horsford.

Shaundell Newsome commented on these programs.

Eric Garner was applauded for helping with this programming.

It was discussed that we are now using this platform for the Henderson area.

Frank and Dr. Zaragoza discussed the Westside Education and Training Center and that it is going to be 15,000 square feet of education and training center.

It was discussed that many potential students are now coming to school who would not ordinarily enroll, as we are meeting their needs in education. Skill training and other opportunities that would allow students to go onto a career and many of these adults that would not otherwise come to campus. Frank and the President mentioned these facilities are to be built in February 2025.
Frank said that the same design is the basis for an application that we made to Economic Development to fund an Eastside education and training center. These centers again are to give access to the underserved market. We will put the same center on the eastside that we are doing in West Las Vegas. That is a vision that Dr. Zaragoza has shared with me and everyone else here, taking education to areas that need a very successful footprint. That needs successful opportunities. Frank said he is just waiting to hear about funding, hopefully in the next 30 days. The Center would be funded jointly by Economic Development and the City. He also mentioned that we are in discussions with the county to develop a higher Education Center because it would also have a dual purpose of having a mini campus and skill training. This would be located somewhere in the Southwest sector of the county. More to come soon on this.

The plan is to seek funding and to do partnerships with the municipalities so that we can provide those training opportunities in underserved communities in the south.

The floor was then given to Jim Ferrence, outside lobbyist. He started to give the history of the NW Campus. That it has been discussed for 20 years and took that long to get here. Through the work of Dr. Zaragoza, it is becoming a reality. The recession in 2008 put things on hold for a while. We eventually got the land patent, and a year was spent negotiating with the City of Las Vegas. The liaison at that time for the city was steadfast that CSN would have the design guidelines, the development agreements and basically 50 pages of documents. He pointed out that there was so much work and steps taken on this project before we got to the current allocation.

Jim reiterated much of what Frank said on previously mentioned bills/legislation. He additionally mentioned many of the helpful state legislators who were supportive of CSN. Jim commended Dr. Zaragoza’s patience throughout the legislative process. Jim mentioned that we were allocated 4.5 million for planning at the right moment.

He further talked about the fact that we will be having shared space at the NW campus and our relationship being positive with Metro Police. Also having a current governor that spent 30 years at the police department. He talked about our User committee and working with Chief Garcia. There was discussion of items in the classrooms and if they could be shared and the issue of the size of the new facility and whether it would be 90,000 square feet. He talked about making us number one on the priority list for funding throughout the system. He discussed the costs of medical mannequins in the health care side of the building and all the possible costs involved.

Jim continued to give more of the history as to where CSN and its projects were located on the priority lists over the years and how to move our projects forward.

Jim discussed honoring our Gold Ribbon Committee, our elected official supporters. He mentioned various supporters at the City Council level, including our Council member Dr. Brune, in addition to other state and local officials. He discussed the support of hospital representatives in the health care areas and Regents, in addition to folks in the private sector.
The floor was then given to Mugunth Vaithilingam, CIO at CSN and he produced this power point.

Mugunth and Raymond De Filippis, Director for Planning and Design-- from his office, discussed in detail various aspects of the new campus. Dr. McCoy also discussed the new campus and provided relevant facts and information. Mugunth had Raymond discuss some of the points on this topic area, as he was familiar.

He pointed out that this NW campus had been in the works for 20 years and there was an aggressive timeline to get this accomplished. The RFP process was discussed, additional discussion ensured regarding getting proposals back from architecture firms, reviewing, selecting, and getting someone contracted. Raymond discussed the programming phase. This would be all the entities that would be going into the building in addition to support what would be needed for the facility. So, this phase we would hash out spaces needed, and square footage.

Then take the development and work out the schematic design. To make this shovel ready by January of 2025, we would need to accelerate the schedule and we would want the contractor on board by this phase. Earlier really, so we could start the civil and structural drawings for this project. We would need to further develop this with all the entities and the schematic design phase. Once we hit the design development, which we are aiming for June and September of next year, we would start finalizing the structural and civil package. And we’d still proceed with the architectural and work with all the different groups that would be going into the facility to hash out where you know all the walls, all that kind of stuff was going at the end of this phase. And this is where the acceleration would take place. We would apply for a permit and review of the structural package. Now the advantage and disadvantage to this is we'd start; we gain about four months of the overall schedule.

Potential disadvantage. We are locked into the shell of the building. We couldn’t change it at that point. We can move around the interior walls and spaces like that, but any large changes to the exterior and the shell of the building, we wouldn’t be able to do again. This gives us the advantage. We would be able to break ground and start the earth moving in January. We would continue with the architectural package which would go through next.

September and December, like I said in January we would start the construction of the outer shell. While that was going on, we’d still be going for a permit for the architectural package, mechanical, electrical, all that kind of interior stuff that would be going on. Hopefully by the end of that phase when the building department approves those plans, we’ll be ready to start that package several months out.

Again, the construction would take place for this exterior package. The support and structure. With the other part of this, we would need funding for that portion of the building. I couldn’t start it in January unless there was funding in place. If there was no chance of funding to be in place for January for the
actual start of construction, I wouldn’t suggest going with this accelerated plan. I would do the more traditional design, build, build.

Design, bid, build where we finish everything in December and then put the whole package out to build. Where does that put us? And I’m going to use this term purposely. What is that place? This project is being shovel ready. Well, again, if we had funding in place to do that structural package in January, we could potentially start construction on January of 25.

If there wasn’t money in place, then the term shovel ready is not actual construction shovel ready. The way it’s defined in the industry is having plans ready and having plans ready to go to permit. Again, depending on who you talk to, or plans ready and permit, and ready to go out to bid, so that is that.

Jim Ferrence brought up some concerns about being shovel ready for sure. There was also discussion about a fundraising component. Peter Guzman mentioned that he was really looking forward to this project.

Jose Solorio mentioned the following:

So that’s the reality. What I’m saying is we may have projects, we may have bowls that make sense to the brain, but what we need to do with each of those three different buckets is plug at their heart, Okay. So how do you do that? Okay. So, I say starting on day one, we need to get those legislators, the governor, you know regents to know more about CSN where we are today.

Where we hope to go and what that will do for you know for the students and the citizens. And so, when I look at legislature and I look at governmental, you know lobbying etcetera, etcetera, I think this is direction we need to go is get them involved in who we are. We know who we are because we’ve been attending meetings every other month for the last few years. I would just say that we should make some effort to, educate and to bring about bring a board support for what we’re doing and then when we’re asking for specific things they should be on board for that. I just want to make that comment and maybe get your input.

Maria Jose Gatti gave her input as follows:

To get them on board from a PR perspective, right. So, a lot of this stuff that you are going to train on this beautiful campus, that is by the way, I was, I just moved into my first house when that sign went up 20 years ago, I was hopeful that I could go to school. But it is the idea that you will bring those in because this is a capital campaign, right? Not everybody will contribute to a capital campaign this way because I’m going to speak for my company…. this falls outside of our given priorities from capital investment. So is it the goal to target those individuals… people that will benefit companies that will benefit directly so they can stand by you when it’s time to ask for dollars to the state? Is that the plan I think yeah absolutely.

Jim F. mentioned law enforcement would contribute. Business owners would get involved.
Dr. Brune thanked Jim and the team for their great work and keeping everyone updated through the process. Thank you to Randy also. We are lucky to have Randy help us through all of this. Jim thanked everyone also. Lawrence Weekly, Chief of Staff, was thanked.

7. **INTRODUCE ASCSN STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT**

Chairman Robison moved us to item number 7. Pio Rejas was introduced by the Chair and President Zaragoza. The new student body President introduced himself also, remotely, and the President mentioned that he was always happy to hear from the Student Body President and mentioned the same for the Faculty Senate representative.

President Zaragoza said it was essential for student government to be part of this committee and he was hopeful that Pio could attend in person in the future. Also, President Zaragoza was glad to have student representation included in the discussions for their perspectives. He said, sometimes we think we have things all figured out and then the student representatives offer a different perspective. He thanked him in advance for his service and wished him good luck.

8. **INTRODUCE CSN’S FACULTY SENATE CHAIR**

The Chairman moved to Agenda item 8. Faculty Senate Chair Patrick Villa was introduced. Patrick proceeded to give his bio, stating he was going into his 20th year at CSN, that he was a math professor and department chair for 6 years. He was the interim chair of the Business department for one year and the Faculty Senate chair this year. He said he was looking forward to chiming in and sharing information. Dr. Zaragoza thanked him for being at the meeting and told Patrick that he looked forward to having his perspective at this and future meetings.

9. **IAC MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

Maria Jose Gatti suggested that Dr. Zaragoza be put in the spotlight for the amazing job he has done for CSN. Other Council members agreed and commended the President for turning CSN dreams into realities. Members Jose, Peter and others complimented President Zaragoza on his fine work for the college. Members said that the President has been doing a great job and brought the college a long way and that he has made a tremendous impact in our community. He helped get the right partnerships lined up. Many commented how sad they were to see the President go, when his term is up. Many said that they are sure however, that he will impact wherever he goes, in a positive way! That we are losing a tremendous asset at CSN, and to always consider Las Vegas, his home. President Zaragoza thanked everyone, told them he appreciated them and that he loved them all. Everyone was very gracious and supportive.

10. **NEXT MEETING DATE PROPOSAL, SEPTEMBER 12, 2023, AT 9 AM**

Folks were asked if this would work for them and there were no complaints. The Chair mentioned there would be more organizational information. He pointed out that the group would generally be meeting quarterly. He said that the morning portion worked for most folks. Randy Robison asked council
members to reserve this date. The Chair mentioned that at the next meeting there would be more discussion on the NW Campus, a report from the Nominating Committee, and other issues. At this time, he gave President Zaragoza the floor to discuss his impending departure next year.

11. **NEW BUSINESS**

President Zaragoza pointed out that CSN had been blessed with a wonderful team that ready for the work ahead. He talked about CSN moving ahead with its agenda to execute and to continue to focus on the community and our strategic plan. Our mission is about empowering students and our community. To help our students succeed, achieve, and prosper! The President pointed out he listened to what the council wanted, and he laid the foundation to get things done. The journey has begun. Our vision is to be the best in the country in terms of performance, excellence, and shared governance, in addition to student success. He said he was privileged and honored for the opportunity to serve. He pointed out he has another job as Grandpa, but he is not going anywhere because this is his home. Shaundell, Jaime, Jose and other council members commended President Zaragoza on a job well done and that he will be missed.

Many lovely, supportive, and complimentary comments were made by the Council members. Shaundell commented in full disclosure that his company had been hired to some marketing, communications, and public outreach engagement for CSN.

Again, it was discussed how hard it is at times to address underserved communities. Chair Robison asked if there was any public comment and there was none.

Danita Simon was introduced and discussed her role here at CSN as the Director of the Foundation.

12. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Robison asked if there was any public comment and he said there was none.

Maria, Peter, and other council members thanked the President for his hard work and dedication as did many other council members. The President thanked the council members, staff, and executive board members for all they have done and do. Dr. Clarissa Cota and Dr. Sonya Pearson were introduced, and both said a few words. Peter, Jose and Randy all had positive accolades and comments about and to President Zaragoza. The Chair thanked Lise’ and Annette for assisting in organizing preparations for the meeting and the Council. The President thanked everyone.

13. **ADJOURN**

Hearing no further comment, the meeting was adjourned around 12 noon.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Lise’ L. Wyman, MA*

*Government and IAC Affairs*

*Office of the President, College of Southern Nevada*