

MINUTES

WESTERN NEVADA COLLEGE
Institutional Advisory Council
Nevada System of Higher Education
2201 W. College Parkway, Carson City, NV 89703

Wednesday, September 30, 2026, 1:00 p.m. (PST)

THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE ONLY AND THERE WAS NO PHYSICAL LOCATION FOR THIS MEETING.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call - Cary Richardson

WNC IAC Chair Cary Richardson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and roll call was taken. A quorum was present.

1. Michelle Joy – not present
2. Alan Jurkonis - present
3. Wendy Loomis - present
4. Jim Peckham - present
5. Mary Pierczynski – not present
6. Cary Richardson, Chair - present
7. Sean Rowe – present

Others present:

Kyle Dalpe, President

Tracy Mendibles, Recorder

Natalie Brown, Asst. Vice Chancellor for Workforce Development and Community Colleges

Dana Ryan, VP of Academic and Student Affairs

Coral Lopez, VP of Finance and Administration

Niki Gladys, Chief Advancement Officer

Melody Duley, Chief of Staff

2. Public Comment

Information Only

Chair Richardson asked for public comment and none was offered.

3. Approval of Minutes

Information/For Possible Action

Chair Richardson asked if there were additions or corrections to the minutes of the March 19, 2026 IAC meeting. None were offered. Jim Peckham motioned to approve the minutes. Al Jurkonis seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. Remarks from WNC IAC Chair Cary Richardson

Information Only

Chair Richardson recognized the success of the Reach for the Stars Gala and thanked those involved in making the event a successful fundraiser and a meaningful event.

5. College Updates

Information Only

President Dalpe provided college updates. He reported that fall enrollment was down by a few hundred students but noted that enrollment continues into October through open-entry classes.

He shared that WNC received a Rural Community College Alliance Community Engagement Award for its work in dual enrollment and discussed WNC's growing national visibility through upcoming higher education and community college presentations.

President Dalpe also noted the October 31 Nevada Day event with the Nevada Builders Alliance and discussed preparations for the upcoming legislative session, including efforts to ensure WNC's priorities remain visible.

In response to a question about dual enrollment, he reported that dual enrollment remains strong at approximately 42 percent of enrollment, while noting demographic trends that will require WNC to continue diversifying enrollment beyond high school students.

6. WNC's At a Glance Presentation

Information Only

President Dalpe presented WNC's At a Glance information, highlighting the College's service area, enrollment, student demographics, awards conferred, programs of study, dual enrollment partnerships, and campus initiatives. He reported that WNC serves approximately 5,300 unduplicated credit students annually, in addition to nearly 1,200 non-credit students, and that the College awarded more certificates of achievement and associate degrees in the most recent year than at any other time in its history.

He reviewed the distribution of course enrollments across liberal arts and sciences, workforce/career and technical education, and nursing and allied health, as well as the College's large part-time, online, and dual enrollment populations.

President Dalpe also discussed current and planned program expansion, including nursing in Fallon and Douglas County and advanced manufacturing opportunities in Fernley.

In response to questions, WNC staff reported that the current ROADS grant award expires October 31, 2027.

President Dalpe and Assistant Vice Chancellor Natalie Brown also discussed the relationship between liberal arts enrollment, career and technical education, transfer pathways, and workforce preparation.

7. IAC Future Direction

Information Only

President Dalpe invited discussion regarding the future direction of the IAC and ways to ensure meetings remain useful to members. He described the IAC as an advisory group to the President and an important group of community ambassadors who can provide feedback, identify community and workforce needs, and support the College when needed. He encouraged members to suggest topics or information they would like included in future meetings and proposed holding a future meeting on campus with lunch and possible campus tours.

Assistant Vice Chancellor Natalie Brown noted that Institutional Advisory Councils operate differently across Nevada's community colleges and that each should be structured to meet the needs of its institution. She said WNC's college updates are helpful and offered to provide relevant NSHE System updates at future meetings.

8. Remarks from WNC IAC Members

Information Only

Wendy Loomis thanked WNC staff for the successful golf tournament and recognized the work of those who organized and supported the event. Niki Gladys noted that the tournament included a hole-in-one.

8. New Business

Information Only

No new business.

10. Public Comment

Information Only

No public comment.

11. Adjourn

Information Only

Chair Richardson adjourned the meeting at 1:39 p.m.