

## Higher Education Advisory Board Meeting

March 11, 2020 | 12:30-2:30 p.m.

NM Higher Education Department

7400 Tiburon Street, NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109

### Board Members:

Dr. Olin Cleve McDaniel, Vice President for Administration and Finance, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology  
Dr. Joe Shepard, President, Western New Mexico University  
Dr. Dan Arvizu, Chancellor, New Mexico State University (*Telephonic Appearance*)  
Dr. Cindy Rooney, Chancellor, University of New Mexico-Los Alamos (*Telephonic Appearance*)  
Kathy Keith, Executive Director of the LANL Community Programs Office  
Dr. Becky Rowley, President, Santa Fe Community College  
Dan García, Vice President for Enrollment Management, UNM  
Dr. Ann Filemyr, President, Southwestern College  
Dr. Elmer Guy, President, Navajo Technical University  
Dr. Monty Harris, Faculty Chair, New Mexico State University-Carlsbad  
Lynn Trujillo, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Indian Affairs Department  
Monica Gonzalez, Resource Faculty, Student Success Advocate, Eastern New Mexico University-Ruidoso

### Absent:

Victor Leon, Chief Information Officer, Central New Mexico Community College

### NMHED Staff Members:

Carmen Lopez, Deputy Secretary  
Gerald Hoehne, Director of Capital Projects  
David Mathews, Staff Attorney

### Members of the Public:

Mark Valenzuela, LFC  
Marc H. Saavedra, NMCUP (*Telephonic Appearance*)  
Kathy Ulibarri, NMICC

### CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 12:40 p.m. by Dr. Becky Rowley.

#### I. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- **Member McDaniel moved to adopt the agenda. Member Trujillo seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

#### II. OPEN MEETINGS ACT RESOLUTION AMENDMENT

- David Mathews, HED General Counsel proposed an amendment to the Open Meetings Act Resolution to include the following language, taken directly from the statute, to allow for telephonic appearances:
  - *A member of the Board may participate in a meeting by means of a telephone conference when it is otherwise difficult or impossible for the member to attend the meeting in person. Any member participating by telephone shall be identified when speaking.*
- **Member Shepard moved to approve the Open Meetings Act Resolution amendment. Member Keith seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

### III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- Page 2, VI, HED Update, first bullet: Change “1.5% recurring (new monies)” to “1.5% redistribution”.
- **Member Filemyr moved to approve the December 10, 2019 Minutes as corrected. Member Keith seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

### IV. OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP – Deputy Secretary, Carmen Lopez

- The language has been revised to clarify that this is a *Middle Dollar* program.
- Funds appropriated for the NM Opportunity Scholarship (NMOS) in HB2 includes \$12M (recurring) and \$5M (non-recurring) to be available for Fall 2020.
- Student eligibility will be based on need and is open to students attending a public postsecondary educational institution or tribal college (2 or 4 year) who are undergraduate, credential-seeking students enrolled in a 2-year program at least 12 credit hours.
- Students must complete the FAFSA or other form of income verification.
- The NMOS is open to adults, 18 years old or older, or who are eligible NM Legislative Lottery Scholarship recipients, who maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 while enrolled in a 2-year program, such as an associate degree program or a credit-bearing certificate program, at a 2-year or 4-year, NM public, post-secondary institution of higher education.
- The NMOS will cover unmet tuition and fees in the following sequence: State financial aid (state aid and Lottery Scholarship), Opportunity Scholarship, and then all other scholarships including federal aid.
- HED Next Steps: Institutions will be surveyed for their projected Fall enrollment numbers to include the various scholarship programs. Shortly thereafter, application tables will be released to the institutions for each of the scholarship programs.
  - Funding:
    - Funds will not run out and aid will be distributed based on need.
    - After the allocation tables are completed, each institution will have a sense of how much funding they will have to distribute. The Lottery funds will get another \$9.7M and that will increase the percentage of tuition and fees that are federally covered.
  - Lumina Foundation Grant:
    - SFCC will be in receipt of a grant from the Lumina Foundation to assist in the promotion of the Opportunity Scholarship. The funds will be used to develop print materials and conduct targeted outreach by working with adult education centers, workforce development sites, financial aid officers, registrars, and tribal higher education directors. Everyone will be informed when the materials become available.
    - SFCC is basically accepting the monies from the Lumina Foundation since HED cannot receive grant funds. The promotional aspects will be largely driven by Lumina through the efforts of HED. There is no institutional guidance for how this will occur; there may be need for the 2-year and 4-year institutions to weigh-in.
    - Deputy Secretary Lopez will share the plan for the Opportunity Scholarship promotion. If anyone has ideas or suggestions, she would like to take those into account.
    - Deputy Secretary Lopez will research whether institutions will have the flexibility to prioritize funding by major or degree-type being that the Department of Workforce Solutions has begun prioritizing by higher-demand jobs and whether there will be opportunities to match funds.
- **MOU**
  - MOUs will be created for each institution and will not contain a tuition limit.
- **FAFSA INITIATIVES**
  - The FAFSA completion initiative will be rolled out at the college/secondary level.
  - There will be a competitive grant competition to release the funds (\$300,000).

- Higher education institutions and non-profits that serve higher education institutions will be asked to provide plans on how they propose to increase the FAFSA completion rates.
- The criteria will be developed to include a point system with a committee of 3-5 people reviewing the applications. A statement will be made prior to July announcing the funded initiatives with funds targeted to go out by July 1.
- **HIGHER EDUCATION ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND SAFETY ISSUES** – Director Capital Projects, Gerald Hoehne [Executive Order 2019-003](#)
  - Support the 2015 Paris Agreement Goals and achieve a statewide reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of at least 45% by 2030 as compared to 2005 levels.
  - All state agencies shall evaluate the impacts of climate change on their programs and operations and integrate climate change mitigation and adaptation practices into their programs and operations.
  - Climate Change Task Force shall evaluate policies and regulatory strategies to achieve reductions in greenhouse gas pollution, consistent with targets set out above, across all categories of emission sources.
  - Develop a NM Climate Strategy document with initial recommendations and a status update, to the Governor, by September 15, 2019.
- State Agency Climate Change Task Force
  - Established by the EO and is made up of representatives from each state agency.
  - Climate Action Teams created to implement the strategies laid out in the November 21, 2019 NM Climate Strategy Document, iterate and develop new strategies, and support future climate reports and updates.
- 2020 Higher Education Climate Leadership Summit (February 23-25, 2020)
  - Representatives from higher education institutions across the nation (Presidents, Sustainability Officers, Facilities, etc.) attended the Summit.
  - Focus was on the opportunity for the higher education sector to take a leadership role in combining sustainable operations, workforce training, and diversity.
  - Examples were given by HEI's on their Climate Action Plans, Resilience Plans, and coordination efforts within their local communities to address climate issues.
  - Documented Carbon Commitments: 4 NM institutions have signed commitments (NMSU-Carlsbad, NMSU-Main Campus, CNMCC, and UNM-Valencia).
- Higher Education Role in Climate Conversation
  - Research and Education:
    - Develop educational training, degree, and apprenticeship programs related to renewable energy and climate action.
  - Energy Conservation and Policies
    - Energy Conservation Policies
    - Facilities Conservation Committee
    - Targeting of Energy Intensive Systems and Energy Smart Capital Improvement Programs
  - Climate Commitment
    - Carbon Management and Greenhouse Gas Mitigation
    - Coordination and planning with the local community
  - NEXT STEPS:
    - Capture what higher education institutions are already doing and document successes.
    - Develop centralized system to report on higher education's climate action initiatives and progress towards state goals.
    - Create platform for resource sharing on ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and integrate resilience into curriculum, research, and campus operations.
    - There is a lot being done that is not being documented and there is still a lot of other work that can be done.

**V. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE TOPICS**

- **Enrollment Issues:** Discuss what we should be doing as a state to be more sustainable with enrollment and in an energy efficient manner.
  - Look at our prospective students: who they are, where they go first, where they go next – in terms of colleges. Deputy Secretary Lopez stated that a state enrollment data presentation can be prepared to kick off this conversation.
  - The market indicates that operating off a semester system is no longer the way.
  - Higher education marketing needs to be changed. We must change how we view the world of higher education and how we describe ourselves.
  - Consider adding alternative degree credentials as part of the transcript.
  - The Lumina Foundation did a presentation on *Student Ready Colleges*. They researched states across the country that were doing a fantastic job of bringing in returning adult students and graduating them into the workforce. They laid out a number of institutional changes that had to happen for it to all come together. That information could be helpful as we think about how to get returning adults back into higher education institutions. Ask Lumina to come to a meeting and present; or someone from HED.
  - The standard 4-year system doesn't work anymore. LANL will probably be hiring approximately 1,200 people at end of 2020 and beginning of 2021. We will miss the boat on a whole generation of New Mexican students, in great paying jobs, if they are not prepared and ready.
- **STEM Programs:** Discuss why our STEM Programs are dropping and other states are increasing.
- **Online Classes:** Discuss how online classes are developed; they have improved and are now much more interactive. However, they are usually very reading and writing intensive. Part of the conversation must be about the drop in the student population coming down the pipeline that would traditionally be moving into our schools; and will directly correlate to the drop in the next generation workforce. We need to think comprehensively about how to get in front of this and what we are going to do to circumvent it. This drop isn't happening to the states around us, discuss why it is happening to us.
- **Coronavirus:** Governor Lujan Grisham declared a state of emergency this morning during her public address. There are 3 confirmed coronavirus cases in NM. Guidelines, information and policy pamphlets were shared with institutions that they may want to roll out.
  - NM COVID-19 Health Line: 855-600-3453.
  - Deputy Secretary Lopez will reword the state memos so that institutions can send them out.
  - Funding will be affected by the decrease in oil. It was \$51/barrel and is now \$30.

**VI. SESSION WRAP UP**

- Deputy Secretary Lopez was unsure if legislative special sessions are anticipated.

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Mark Valenzuela: He likes the direction this Board is taking in terms of breaking the model of higher education in a way that is helpful to students.

**VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** *None Requested.*

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

***Member Keith motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Member Shepard. Motion carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 2:01 p.m.***

*Victor Leon*

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Victor Leon, Board Secretary