



Regular Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2019 – 12:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M.

Rio Salado College – Tower Building, Da Vinci Room (6th Floor)

Members

Joel Hauff, University of Arizona, Chair- Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR)	X
Karol Schmidt, Rio Salado College- Arizona Community College Coordinating Council (AC4)	X
Patricia Feldman, Arizona State University- Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR)	X
Matthew Gidley, Northern Arizona University- Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR)	X
Michael Amick, Pima Community College- Arizona Community College Coordinating Council (AC4)	X
Teri Stanfill, Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education (AZPPSE)	X
Stacey Hilton, Yavapai College- Arizona Community College Coordinating Council (AC4)	X
Jennifer Lech, Grand Canyon University - Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education (AZPPSE)	X
Paul Mittman, Southwest College of Naturopathic Medicine & Health Sciences- Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education (AZPPSE)	-

Others Present

Lanna Dueck, AZ SARA Council Executive Director	X
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I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Hauff called the meeting to order at 12:00 P.M.

II. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC: Public input is encouraged. *Presentations must be limited to five minutes.* In order to complete the agenda, the Chair may limit the number of speakers at any given meeting. Please be aware, however, that the Council may not discuss, consider or take action at this meeting on any item not appearing on its Agenda.**

Chairman Hauff opened the call to the Public. No individuals from the public were present at the meeting.

III. **COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

JANUARY 15, 2019 MEETING MINUTES: Chairman Hauff introduced the minutes.
Approved as submitted.

Motion to Approve: Dr. Lech

Second: Ms. Hilton

Vote: 8-0-0

IV. INSTITUTIONAL RENEWALS

- A. ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY:** Ms. Patty Feldman, Chief Culture Officer and Chief of Staff at EdPlus, represented the institution. ASU Online started five new programs over the spring and plans to launch one over the summer and eighteen next fall. This will bring the total number of online programs to one hundred and seventy-seven.

Motion to Approve: Dr. Lech

Second: Dr. Schmidt

Vote: 7-0-1 (Feldman)

- B. GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY:** Dr. Jennifer Lech, Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs, represented the institution and provided an update on the institution's transition from for-profit to non-profit status. Mr. Amick requested an update on the Higher Learning Commission's (HLC) focused visit. Dr. Lech explained the visit was due to the status change with no findings from the HLC and it is moving forward to the Institutional Actions Committee. Ms. Dueck explained how SARA assesses an institution's financial viability during a status change through alignment with the U.S. Department of Education's financial criteria. GCU is following the Department's financial viability process and updating Arizona SARA accordingly. The financial viability documentation is provided with the institution's renewal packet.

Motion to Approve: Dr. Schmidt

Second: Ms. Feldman

Vote: 7-0-1 (Lech)

- C. NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY:** Mr. Gidley, Associate Director for NAU Online, represented the institution and provided an update on leadership changes and the institution's focus on improving its online model. Ms. Hilton inquired as to the institution's interim report to the HLC in relation to institutional communication. Mr. Gidley stated the communication issues largely stemmed from a time of significant transition within the institution with a new President, and also within the state higher education community at large with state budget cuts. These transitions have stabilized and the report was accepted by the HLC.

Motion to Approve: Mr. Amick

Second: Ms. Hilton

Vote: 7-0-1 (Gidley)

- D. PRESCOTT COLLEGE:** Ms. Mary Frances Causey, Associate Dean of Institutional Research and Compliance, represented the institution indicating it offers Bachelors and Masters programs and one Doctoral level program to approximately eight hundred students. The institution is experiencing its second year of growth after years of decline. Ms. Hilton

inquired as to the closure of a school in Vermont and its relationship with PC. Ms. Causey explained that both institutions belong to the Eco League, a league of institutions with a 'green' focus, and when the Vermont institution decided to close, Prescott College became a preferred teach-out partner and anticipates forty to fifty students to teach-out with PC.

Motion to Approve: Mr. Gidley
Second: Dr. Lech
Vote: 8-0-0

- E. RIO SALADO COLLEGE:** Dr. Karol Schmidt, Dean for Institutional Effectiveness and Innovation, represented the institution indicating Rio celebrated its forty-year anniversary. Additionally, the institution is working on its soft-launch of Rio National focused on streamlining enrollment and an improved advisement model. Mr. Gidley asked as to whether this was the institution's first venture into out-of-state advertisement and branding and Dr. Schmidt explained this is an accumulation of the institution's previous work with a concerted focus on a national level.

Motion to Approve: Dr. Lech
Second: Ms. Hilton
Vote: 7-0-1 (Schmidt)

- F. SONORAN DESERT INSTITUTE:** Mr. Chris Caraway, Vice President of Operations; Ms. Traci Lee, President; and Mr. Marc Prochello, Vice President of Finance, represented the institution. Mr. Caraway provided an update on the institution's location change from Scottsdale to Tempe, a change in its legal structure and related Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC) and Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education (AZPPSE) reviews. The institution also dialogued with Ms. Dueck to ensure financial viability measures were met in accordance with its legal structure change and it was determined the financial score was not impacted for SARA purposes. Ms. Stanfill reported the institution is on quarterly reporting with the AZPPSE.

Motion to Approve: Dr. Lech
Second: Mr. Amick
Vote: 8-0-0

- G. UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA:** Mr. Joel Hauff, Associate Vice President for Academic Initiatives and Student Success, represented the institution and noted its continued online growth of fifty and twenty-five percent in undergraduate and graduate enrollments respectively. The institution also completed its Additional Locations visit and review by the HLC including three domestic locations and one international location reviewed with no monitoring. Ms. Hilton inquired as to the educational delivery modality at the additional locations to which Mr. Hauff indicated the domestic locations

are all designed as hybrid while the international ‘micro-campuses’ are all a flipped classroom model with an Arizona-based faculty member delivering the online didactic content and a location-based national instructor facilitating weekly face-to face interactions.

Motion to Approve: Ms. Feldman

Second: Dr. Schmidt

Vote: 7-0-1 (Hauff)

- H. UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX:** Ms. Bridget Beville, Associate General Counsel and Ms. Vicki Mangiapane, Vice President Deputy General Counsel, represented the institution. Ms. Beville indicated it had completed its HLC comprehensive visit during which time it also conducted ten Additional Location reviews. All are moving forward to the HLC Institutional Actions Board with no monitoring. The institution also moved its main location from Tempe to Phoenix, underwent its Recertification process with the U.S. Department of Education for financial aid purposes and has had its new president in place for just over a year.

Motion to Approve: Ms. Stanfill

Second: Ms. Hilton

Vote: 8-0-0

V. INSTITUTIONAL NON-RENEWAL

- A. WESTERN INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY:** Ms. Bridget Beville, Associate General Counsel and Ms. Vicki Mangiapane, Vice President Deputy General Counsel, represented the institution. Ms. Beville stated it is in its final stages of closure. The institution has met all accreditation and AZPPSE closure requirements and continues to update the Arizona SARA Council on its status with required documentation. Ms. Dueck will file the Non-Renewal documentation to NC SARA closer to the institution’s expiry date in late April to finalize its removal from SARA participation.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

- A. BUDGET UPDATE:** The budget was presented to the Council in meeting materials. Current total fees accrued this fiscal year are \$54,000. Expenses incurred in current FY to date total \$82,354 with a balance of \$329,976.
- B. STUDENT COMPLAINTS:** Ms. Dueck provided the Council members with a summary of complaints received. One new complaint was documented as of the last Council meeting. No complaints constituted review by the Council per NC SARA policy.
- C. NC SARA UPDATES:**
State Update: California remains the only non-SARA state. The new WICHE President, Dr. Michelau, is continuing SARA efforts in California.

W-SARA Director: Ms. Dueck met with Dr. Michelau in February. Dr. Michelau confirmed WICHE is actively working on filling the W-SARA position. When the position is filled, first priority will be given to the governance structure of the W-SARA Steering Team. Dr. Michelau also requested Arizona SARA's assistance in moving the SARA California efforts forward.

NC SARA State Portal Webinar: NC SARA Staff held its first State Portal Webinar. Topics covered were Provisional Approval and the Financial Composite Score. NC SARA plans to have 2-4 webinars a year for each of its audiences: State Portals, Institutions and Regional Steering Teams.

- D. ELECTRONIC APPLICATION UPDATE:** Ms. Dueck is working on converting the NC-SARA application document into an electronic document and the review and approval process into an automated workflow. Ms. Dueck has interviewed numerous vendors. Capability and costs vary widely. Given this, Ms. Dueck has contacted a higher education technology consultant that may be able to assist in the discovery and implementation process. The Council authorized \$5,000 to be allocated towards a technology consultant to secure the best solution. An update will be provided at the April meeting.

- E. ARIZONA SARA FORUM:** The 2019 Arizona SARA Forum is scheduled for April 29th from 10 AM to 3:30 PM. The Council reviewed the working budget, draft agenda, speakers and other logistical details. Ms. Dueck solicited the assistance of several Council members for day of needs.

- F. NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:**
 - 4.29.2019 @ 4:15 P.M. INSTITUTIONS UP FOR RENEWAL
 - I. BRYAN UNIVERSITY
 - II. COCHISE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
 - III. HARRISONA MIDDLETON UNIVERSITY
 - IV. INTERNATIONAL BAPTIST COLLEGE AND SEMINARY
 - V. NATIONAL PARALEGAL COLLEGE
 - VI. PIMA MEDICAL INSTITUTE
 - VII. SESSIONS COLLEGE

- VII. CHAIR'S REPORT:** Chairman Hauff announced that he is retiring from the University of Arizona effective December 31, 2019, culminating 25 years of service. His retirement will necessitate a new Arizona SARA Council Chair. The nomination and election process will take place virtually with an incoming Chair elected late March. The incoming Chair will work with Chairman Hauff over the April and September meetings to be ready to assume full Chair responsibilities January 2020.

- VIII. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting of the Arizona SARA Council adjourned at 1:41 P.M.