NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
BOARD OF REGENTS
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
October 28, 1999

PRESENT

Board Members: Chairman Ramon Villagomez, Regents Abelina Cing-Cabrera, Vincent J. Seman, Manuel Sablan, and Teresa Taitano.

College Staff and Faculty: President Agnes M. McPhetres, Legal Counsel Jesus C. Borja, V.P. Jack Sablan, Al Santos, Barbara Moir, Rik Villegas, Tony Guerrero, Ed Camacho, and Ray Mafnas.

Meeting Called to Order: 3:20 p.m.

A. Welcoming Remarks by Chair: Chairman Villagomez welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

B. Review/Approval of Agenda:

ACTION #1: Regent Sablan moved and seconded by Regent Seman to adopt the proposed agenda. Motion was unanimously carried.

C. Adoption of Minutes:

ACTION #2: Regent Sablan moved, and seconded by Regent Seman which was unanimously approved to adopt the minutes of the regular Board meeting of September 24, 1999 and the special Board meeting of October 18, 1999.

II. Committee Reports

Program Committee: Regent Seman reported that he attended the meeting at the Governor’s office to discuss the Nursing Program. Present at that meeting were Rita Inos - Public School System Commissioner of Education, members of the Nursing Board, and several members of the legislature. In order for the Nursing Program to continue, NMC had to work with PSS and CHC. Additional funding was needed for the program. The Governor expressed support of the program and established a taskforce that would include Kevin Villagomez from CHC, Rita Inos from PSS, and a member of the Board of Regents.

The President reported that the Program Committee met with the Nursing Board October 13, 1999 to discuss the findings of the assessment of the Nursing Program. The Committee and the Nursing Board felt that the Governor should be aware of the findings of the study. Therefore the Nursing Board scheduled a meeting with the Governor. The Nursing Program needed collaborative efforts with agencies such as PSS and the Nursing Board in order to survive. The participants of the meeting at the Governor’s Office showed support and they had no intentions of closing down the Nursing Program.
**Fiscal-Legislative Committee:** Regent Seman informed the Board that the Committee carried out its meeting in a nontraditional manner. There were problems at the Business Office that required immediate attention. The Committee expressed concerns with the Business Office. The August 1999 Financial Statement was still under review. The Committee would be working closely with Al Santos to keep abreast with NMC’s financial status.

The Procurement Regulation was still under review by the Committee. Recommendation for action would be ready by the next Board meeting. Legal Counsel Borja requested that he would like to review the Procurement Regulation before the Committee would make any recommendation for action.

**Personnel Committee:** Chairman Villagomez announced that Regent Atalig was hospitalized yesterday and was unable to conduct the Personnel Committee meeting. Chairman Villagomez conducted the meeting for Regent Atalig.

**Compensatory Time:**
Regent Sablan questioned NMC’s Compensatory Time policy whether or not it mirrored the PSSRR. Legal Counsel Borja informed the Board that the policy was in line with the Public Services System Rules and Regulations (PSSRR) and that he saw no problems with the policy.

**Action # 4:** Regent Sablan moved and seconded by Regent Seman which was unanimously approved to refer the policy back to the Personnel Committee and have the Legal Counsel submit a legal opinion.

**Compensation Plan:**
Chairman Villagomez recommended that the Compensation Plan be referred to a joint committee made up of the Fiscal-Legislative and the Personnel Committee before recommending an action to the Board.

**Recruiting and Hiring Practices:**
There was no action taken by the Committee.

**Workload:**
**Action # 5:** Regent Sablan moved and seconded by Regent Seman which was unanimously approved to adopt the proposed amendment to the policy and to change the word “may” to “shall”.

**Review of Vacant Positions:**
**Action # 6:** Regent Seman moved and seconded by Regent Sablan which was unanimously approved to refer this matter to the joint committee.

**Auxiliary Services:**
**Action # 7:** Regent Seman moved and seconded by Regent Sablan which was unanimously approved to refer this matter to the joint committee.

**Reclassification:**
Action # 8: Regent Sablan moved and seconded by Regent Seman which was unanimously approved to reclassify the following federally funded employees: Ross Manglona, Henera Ada, Nadine Aguon, Claudia Leon Guerrero, and Raymond Dela Cruz.
Action # 9: Regent Sablan moved and seconded by Regent Cing-Cabrera which was unanimously approved to authorize a maximum of six positions in the Business Office to include the Comptroller.

President’s Report: The President reported that Chairman Villagomez, VP Sablan, Erik Plinske, and herself went to Guam to with Jack Peters concerning “pending suspension” citations. The President informed the Board that NMC complied with all of Jack Peter’s findings. Chairman Villagomez assured Jack Peters that NMC will comply with all the requirements. The meeting with Jack Peters was positive and that there was a sense of commitment to work together with Jack Peters.

SBDC Program:
Rik Villegas gave the Board a copy of SBDC’s strategic plan as well as an overview of the plan. There were three programs that were developed to meet the needs of the business community, especially those which could benefit from the Business-CPR (Business Crisis-Prevention and Revitalization) concept.

Self-Study:
The President reported that NMC is in the process of conducting its Self-Study for the accreditation. She invited the Board to participate in the meeting and become members of the committee and subcommittees of the Self-Study team.

Renovation:
The President requested that the action be suspended until the Program Committee reviews the policy.

Final Adjournment 5:40 p.m.
Respectfully submitted By: Julie Ulloa-Heath, Special Assistant to the Board of Regents and the President.