Northern Marianas College
BOARD OF REGENTS

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
BOR Conference Room
29 September 2000

I. CALL TO ORDER: 3:00 p.m.

II. PRESENT:

A. BOR Members: Acting Chairman Fermin M. Atalig, Regent Kimberlyn King, Regent Abelina Cing-Cabrera, Regent Teresa Taitano, and Regent Vince Seman.

B. NMC Faculty, Staff: President Jack Sablan, Jesse Borja, Esq. (Legal Counsel), Alvaro Santos, Dave Atalig, Chas Algaier, Barbara Moir, Diana Greenough, Fred Hill, Nestor Ablog, Kohne Ramon, Al Johnson, Ed. Camacho, and Vince Merfalen (recorder).

C. Students: Christine Fidelino, Christopher Cabrera, Vanessa Mobel, and Randy Rosario.

D. Guests: Mr. Dan Nielsen (Governor’s Office), Edith Alejandro (Marianas Variety), and Marian Maraya-Acosta (Saipan Tribune).

III. Chairman’s Remarks and Preliminary Matters:

A. Proposed agenda was reviewed and approved.

B. Minutes of the Regular BOR meeting of 20 July 2000 were reviewed.

1. Motion: to approve the minutes of 20 July 2000 (as amended).

2. Motion Carried Unanimously

C. Chairman’s remarks:

1. Report on the meeting with the Ways & Means Committee; paving the way for the NMC vision.

2. BOR accused of dragging their feet on the EUCON issue; not true. EUCON has not yet come up to NMC to justify their request and discuss the issues. President reports that he is still waiting for the EUCON representative.
3. The Chair puts a hold on the BOR retreat until vacancies in the BOR membership are filled.

4. Condolence to Regent King and her family for the passing of her father.

IV. Reports:

A. Personnel Committee

1. Last Committee meeting was 8/22/00. Regent Atalig reported highlights of the meeting.

2. Regent Atalig gave an update on the Drug-free policy.

B. Program Committee – No quorum at the last scheduled meeting.

C. Fiscal and Legislative Committee

1. Last committee meeting was 9/26/00. Regent Seman reported highlights of the meeting.

2. Accounting system still has problems.
   a. Regent Seman requested the Comptroller's report be resubmitted with qualifying statements.
   b. Regent states, “We must shape up our accounting system.”

      (1) Partial draw-down of Pell grant was made for $300K; approximately $400K remaining.

V. NMC President’s Report:

A. Dr. Fred Hill introduced the new Faculty Senate President, Dr. Diana Greenough.

B. Construction of the new Tinian Campus is near completion and on schedule.

C. Rota Campus move to the new location now complete. The new facility is a big improvement over the old. CREES remains on a section of the old campus.

D. President presents a performance report of the Strategic Master Plan.

E. Accreditation:

   1. Report to the Accreditation team is now complete
2. Dr. Barbara Moir presents the itinerary of the visiting team and explains the events of the week.

VI. Faculty Senate Report:

A. Dr. Hill presented information on the faculty senate activities. Some issues are being worked on one-on-one with faculty members (no detail given on the issues).

B. Dr. Greenough announces that the Faculty Senate will be meeting on Tuesday, 10 Oct 00, 3:00 p.m., to discuss the organization of the senate. Everyone is invited to attend and encouraged to submit comments.

VII. Student Council Report: New president reports that she and her officers are currently assessing things.

VIII. Old Business:

A. The president gives a brief overview of the self-study report.

B. Budget FY01 (includes tuition and revenues)

1. President and Budget Officer were asked if there was any last minute input.

2. President explains that the only open item is a legislative approval of our new salary schedules.

3. **Motion:** to approve the proposed budget.

4. **Motion carried unanimously.**

C. BOR Policy 1601. President explains the need for the new policy. Discussion ensued on the impact of the policy on the accreditation. The policy satisfies one of the findings from the last accreditation. The current request is in line with our plan for improvement. No action taken; regents want more time to review it before adopting the proposal.

IX. New Business

Proposal was submitted to amend the NMC contributions on employee health insurance premiums. The Chairman referred the request to the Personnel Committee for review and evaluation.

X. Executive Session: Update given on pending legal cases

XI. Miscellaneous
A. Mr. Dan Nielsen; based on the Governor's directive, he is available to NMC during the accreditation visit.

B. Regent Cing-Cabrera gives a trip report of the PPEC conference in Palau.

XII. **Adjourn**  4:20 p.m.