Call to order at 10:25 a.m.

I. Preliminary Matters
   A. Roll Call:
      Board of Regents: Regent Galvin Guerrero, Regent Margarita Olopai-Taitano, Regent Orilla, Regent Eloise Furey, Regent Jose Sablan, Regent Kimberlyn Hinds, Regent Abelina Cing-Cabrera and Regent Danny Wyatt
      Legal Counsel: Jesus C. Borja
      NMC: President Tony Deleon Guerrero, Kurt Barnes, Raaj Kurapati, Elsie Halstead, Severina Ogo, Debbie Diaz and Reina Camacho as recorder.
      Guests: Justin Manglona and Mr. Hocog

   B. Adoption of Agenda
      Agenda was adopted with the following changes:
      • Add Postsecondary Education Licensing Policy to Old Business as item A
      • Add FY 2006 Budget to New Business as item A; Honorary President as item B; Honorary Staff Member as item C and Oceania & Special Collections Policy as item D

   C. Adoption of Minutes
      Minutes of November 24, 2004 were adopted with the following changes:
      • Regent Hinds said there was a typo on page 2; number one of the President's report.
      • Regent Olopai-Taitano said correct item 4J on page 3 needs to read “these are” instead of this is
      • Regent Hinds said correct item 4Y found on page 4 to read “need to follow”; also, change item 4dd on page 4 to read “our” not are.

II. Public Input
   1. Justin Manglona said would like to ask 3 issues. He wants to bring the attention of the board to the land that belongs to the college, approximately 14 hectares from Marianas public lands. He said there are some squatters in that area, entering the property and doing development. This is important that the college maintain the area, check with public lands and determine if its still NMC property or public land. If the land belongs to the college, please make it known that it belongs to the college. The property next door to Jack's property from Sunrise Hotel to the mountain and including across the road where the breadfruit is growing. The second issue is this area, Tatachong. There are at least 14 private owners of this land. They have not completed the land exchange or compensation. It's good if the college and board conduct further investigation on this area. We cannot develop the area if it belongs to others.
   2. Severina Ogo said she's been appointed to government land exchange committee. It's her priority to make sure NMC is taking care of the land given to it. It's a long process, but we are looking into it. We have a committee joined by MPLA and Public Works. We are hoping to resolve the issue real soon.
   3. Regent Guerrero asked why is this the first time that he's heard of this issue. Why are we building on land that's not ours?
   4. Severina Ogo said the college facility is built on public land. But there are small lots that surround college that belong to private owners. There is works for compensation or land exchange. This was raised with then President Jack Sablan, legal counsel and then Regent members. There was action on this couple years back. We are trying to compensate the land owners to officially get the land for NMC.
5. Regent Guerrero said this is just the first time it was brought to this current board and he’s been a member for four years.

6. Justin Manglona said he’s concerned if the college continues to build and the land exchange is not performed or if it was agreed for 200 sq meter and now it is 400 sq meter. Mr. Manglona’s third issue is that the previous board made a decision to transfer the land grant program. This decision was made when he was a board member.

7. Regent Hinds directed President Guerrero to look into minutes of 1997 or application years on when the decision was made.

8. Justin Manglona said members of board was Avardi from Tinian, Ben Santos, Manny Sablan, and Teresa Taitano.

9. Regent Olopai-Taitano asked Mr. Manglona if he remembers what is the decision of the transfer, what is to remain on Saipan and what is to be transferred to Rota.

10. Justin Manglona said the main program was to be on Rota, and that there was reluctance of staff to move to Rota.

III. Miscellaneous

1. Regent Hinds said she wanted to share mail received: House resolution 14-96 to provide 4 full time employees upon availability of funds for the Rota campus. Regent Hinds said we are in support in granting more FTE especially for faculty and to consider the needs of Rota and Tinian. While the Legislature supports our causes and writes resolutions; they are not backed up with funds to make the resolutions happen.

2. Regent Guerrero said he does not understand that the body that gives FTE is also telling us to stop hiring.

3. Regent Hinds said another house resolution was mailed, commending Sam McPhetres, who specializes in history and government for the CNMI. We, too, extend our thanks to him for his commitment to the college.

4. Regent Hinds also received a letter from Senate President Adriano regarding Loyola Medical College Foundation. Regent Hinds said we have yet to receive a licensing application and until such time an application is submitted will the board comment on the matter.

IV. Reports

A. BOR Standing Committees

1. Fiscal-Legislative committee

Regent Guerrero said he defers to the report from the Finance office and requests everyone’s attention to the continuing work on the Pell situation and we seem to be making progress in terms of our cash flow. The most important thing is that on Jan 28, we expect to receive the budget submissions for FY 2005 and FY 2006 submission to the Governor’s Office, which is due on February 15th. We’ll have a couple of weeks to review both.

2. Program Committee

a. Regent Orilla said committee discussed the following matters: the postsecondary educational policies suggestions by the AGO, student development procedure, strategic planning session general information, sister-school agreement between NMC and Koryo high school, proposed Pleasant Care/Willis Management MOA and the committee recommended President Guerrero conduct more research. The Committee witnessed an excellent presentation from Severina and Mike on Rota programs and activities which included the needs and challenges of the Rota campus.

b. Regent Guerrero said that although long, he was very, very impressed with variety of programs the Rota campus implements and the creativity to conduct various activities with limited resources.

c. Severina Ogo said thank you.
3. Personnel Committee
   a. Regent Olopai-Taitano reported the Committee reviewed the report as provided as provided by the Director of HRO. The things we need to follow up are: HR Policy, each regent has received CD copy and expect board provide comments; Management review desk audit, in two weeks time, the RFP will be out and we’ll have gathered more information on the cost and lastly, the evaluation instruments.
   b. Regent Olopai-Taitano asked President Guerrero when will be evaluations be implemented.
   c. President Guerrero said once all performance evaluations have been drafted and approved.
   d. Regent Hinds wanted to relay to Regent Wyatt that the Board of Regents is serious at looking at a rotating contract and/or permanent contract and for HRO to start looking into it for next regular board meeting on April 29th.

B. President
   1. President Guerrero referred to the report provided to the Regents in their packet.
   2. Regent Guerrero asked if there are any plans to track the outcomes and when those reports be available
   3. President Guerrero said we have teams and are reviewing all course guides and implement student learning outcomes.
   4. Regent Wyatt said it’s closely tied to accreditation. We need to have assessment activities reflect accreditation activities. We’re trying to make it permanent, not ad hoc.
   5. President Guerrero said the benefit was that it created a shift among staff and faculty; that we’re looking at accreditation as a way to steer our services.
   6. President Guerrero said the PPEC received funding from U.S. Department of Interior and the council is looking at building regional capacity, training. All CEO’s are invited to the Feb 22-23, 2005 meeting and mike Rota, who’s the ACCJC Representative for the region is asked to assist in conducting HR needs assessment throughout the pacific. PPEC will sponsor boardsmanship training on March 18-25 and all travel will be paid by PPEC.
   7. President Guerrero said he held a meeting with the Rota staff as well as staff present from the main campus. It was informative and healthy. We wanted to reach out to them and find out how we can assist with their needs.
   8. Regent Hinds said even though we have a limited budget for the board, we still need one meeting a year on each campus.
   9. Severina Ogo said if the distance learning equipment is up, we can utilize it.

C. Faculty Senate – Regent Wyatt reported.
   1. The faculty are pleased that the board is hearing the concerns. The faculty also thank the Board for the support in using the 1999 salary scale and the permanent contract issue. Regent Wyatt said the faculty senate and assembly have only met once after November due to exams and semester break. The student email account is up and running and this means we can contact students easier and admissions/financial aid/counselor can all have access to contacting students. This is a step with our dialogue and communication. The Nursing faculty opposes the proposal of establishing a school of medicine and until they get a license, there’s no position of the college until they can legally do business and do recommend that we keep the nursing department informed. Also, keep in mind Stephen Ewen who’s worked in a medical school.
   2. Regent Wyatt said parents are concerned about the future of the lab school.
   3. Regent Hinds asked Reina Camacho to add CLS to the next meeting agenda.
   4. Regent Wyatt said faculty are concerned on recruitment. Usually there are many students who have to take the low levels; but their numbers have gone down.

D. Associated Students of NMC
   1. Regent Regent Olopai-Taitano asked where is the representative from ASNMC.
2. Reina Camacho said the representative is the President and was unable to attend today’s meeting. A letter of appointment from ASNMC will be provided letter.
3. Regent Hinds said she would like ASNMC consider alternating representation on the Board of Regents with students from Rota and Tinian.

E. Staff Senate
1. Regent Furey said at the previous board meeting, we recommended that the staff be included as official and honorary members. Can we follow up on having the college administration bring this to the board for official appointment? Also, provide the draft policy language to include staff as honorary member.
2. Kurt Barnes read the staff senate concerns that were included in the BOR packet.

V. Old Business
A. Postsecondary Education Licensing Policy
Regent Furey said in discussion with the program committee, it was recommended by the committee that the full board adopt the AGO recommendations to include two new issues to the proposed policy. 2nd by Regent Guerrero seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. Motion carried.

B. Honorary President title to Dr. Ikeda
Regent Guerrero moved to authorize President Guerrero and BOR chair to confer Dr. Ikeda with the president title with defined parameters of limiting authority. Regent Furey seconded the motion.

Discussion:
1. Regent Olopai-Taitano said lets not be blinded with the opportunity of financial resources.
2. Regent Hinds asked what are the parameters.
3. President Guerrero said recognizing the economic down turn and future challenges, we need to establish new relations and this is really an administrative matter and a lot of positive results can only come from granting this honorary title. And to create as far as parameters are concerned, we’re still finalizing the letter and the parameters. We want him to recognize that this is strictly honorary title to establish friendship. We are not going to lose sight of our mission; we’re here to provide quality postsecondary education.
4. Regent Guerrero asked if this can we wait until February to grant this honorary title.
5. President Guerrero said the international group is having their conference in Honolulu this weekend. This invitation to attend covers all travel expenses.
6. Regent Guerrero said based on our conversation at the committee, the board was to be provided with clearly defined parameters by the regular meeting.
7. Regent Hinds said she wants to make sure that we have no rights or claim.
8. Legal Counsel Borja suggests it would be a caution or caveat on the certificate that there are restrictions to this title. The conferee may use the term solely to promote constitutional mission of NMC.

A recess was called at11:32 a.m. and the regular meeting was resumed at 11:45 a.m.

Regent Guerrero moved to table the discussion on the floor and moved that the board suspend normal procedure of adopting and amending board policy. Regent Furey seconded the motion.

Adopted on March 10, 2005
Discussion:
9. Regent Guerrero said we need a two thirds vote
10. Regent Olopai-Taitano asked why he moved to suspend policy.
11. Regent Guerrero said he hopes to adopt a board policy to define what we mean by policy
12. Regent Furey said would like to vote.

The vote was 5-aye and Regent Olopai-Taitano voted no.

MOTION: Regent Guerrero moved to adopt a policy that delineates honorary positions conferred are conditions of conference of title on any honorary position; shall promote constitutionally mandated mission, including enhancing learning opportunities for NMC, promote inter-cultural understanding; does not confer authority or benefits of this position and may not use the title for gain. Regent Furey seconded the motion and recommends this policy be added to the board operations policy.

The Vote: 6-aye; no opposition.

MOTION: Regent Guerrero returned to the previous motion to confer title of President to Dr. Ikeda. The motion was seconded.

Discussion:
1. Regent Guerrero said this was an experience for the board; let’s try to do our homework next time.
2. Regent Hinds said let’s not make emergency policies.

The vote 5-aye and Regent Olopai-Taitano opposed.

C. Honorary staff member – assigned to program for staff senate to get policy.

D. Ocean & special collections policy – as recommended by program committee motion for full board to adopt the policy with the changes by legal counsel, to be included as part of the student development policies. 2nd by Regent Furey.

Aye. No opposition. Motion carried.

VII. Executive session
Entered into at 11:56 a.m. All except the members of the Board of Regents, President Guerrero Raaj Kurapati, Legal Council and Reina Camacho were asked to leave the Room. Regent Guerrero excused himself from attending.

The regular meeting resumed at 12:13 p.m. Regent Hinds said an informal request was received by the Officer of the Governor on two matters. 1) Manage and operate La Fiesta up to Sept 30, 2005 and 2) Operate La Fiesta if funds were available.

Regent Hinds said the Board of Regents discussed the requests the determined: in regards to the first request, the Board of Regents accepts to operate until January 31st 2005; in regards to the second request, the Board is in no position to accept the offer.

This was made into a motion by Regent Furey and seconded by Regent Orilla. There was no discussion.
The vote was 5-aye and Regent Guerrero abstained. Motion carried.

VIII. Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.