I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Attendance:

Board of Regents: Chairperson Charles Cepeda, Regent Elaine Hocog Orilla, Vice-Chairperson Maria (Malua) T. Peter, Regent Dr. Rita Hocog Inos (via telephone in Rota), Regent Juan S. Demapan, Honorary Faculty Regent Representative Frank Sobolewski, Honorary Student Regent Miles Rodriguez, and Honorary Staff Regent Joyce Taro.

Excused/Absent: Regent Janet Han King

College Staff and Faculty: Dr. Carmen Fernandez, NMC President; Frankie Eliptico, OIA Director; Cynthia Deleon Guerrero, SOE Director; Pasquana Calvo, Acting Dean of Academic Programs and Services; Roger Madriaga, CFAO; and Helen Camacho, Office of Institutional Advancement (Recorder).

Others: Jesse Borja, NMC Legal Counsel; Mark Scoggins, NMC Legal Counsel.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Regents was called to order on July 2, 2009, at 3:46p.m., in the BOR Conference room at the Northern Marianas College, Saipan campus.

A. Roll Call

Chairperson Cepeda called roll call. Five members of the Board of Regents were present.

B. Review and Adoption of Agenda

Motion: Regent Dr. Inos motioned to adopt the agenda.
Second: Regent Orilla seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

C. Review and Adoption of Minutes – March 30, 2009 Regular Meeting

Motion: Regent Orilla motioned to approve the March 30, 2009 Regular Meeting minutes.
Second: Regent Peter seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Review and Adoption of Minutes – April 14, 2009 Special Meeting

Motion: Regent Orilla motioned to approve the April 14, 2009 Special Meeting minutes.
Second: Regent Peter seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.
D. Review and Adoption of Minutes – May 28, 2009 Special Meeting  
Motion: Regent Orilla motioned to approve the May 28, 2009 Special Meeting minutes.  
Second: Regent Peter seconded the motion.  

Discussion:  
Regent Demapan requested that meeting minutes should contain more of the discussion among the board members. Regent Dr. Inos also recommended that the members of the BOR committees provide a brief summary of the deliberations and discussions that take place during the committee meetings, thereby allowing some disclosure of pertinent information to be included in the minutes.  

Amendments:  
March 30, 2009 meeting minutes – Jesse Borja, NMC legal counsel was present at the meeting.  
March 30, 2009 meeting minutes (page 4) – include Regent Dr. Inos who also voted on the WASC Show Cause Report.  

Vote: The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote to adopt the March 30, April 24, and May 28, 2009 meeting minutes with amendments.  

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS/MISCELLANEOUS  

1. Frank Sobolewski, also present to address the Board as a private citizen of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, expressed his concern that a climate of fear still exists at the College. He said that certain individuals are being harassed for exercising their freedom of speech rights and speaking out in public about certain matters at the college. Mr. Sobolewski sought the assistance of the Board to have NMC’s legal counsels review this matter and, more importantly, to have the college clarify its role in acknowledging these free speech rights.  

III. REPORTS  

A. ASNMC Report  
In a handout provided to Board members, Honorary Regent and ASNMC President Miles Rodriguez outlined some of the ASNMC Spring and Summer activities. She also indicated that the election for officers will be held in September (ASNMC Constitution mandates two weeks after first day of school).  

Regent Dr. Inos commended ASNMC for its report and praised ASNMC for its ability to address various challenges.  

B. Staff Senate Report  
No report.  

C. Faculty Senate Report  
No report.  

D. President’s Report – WASC Accreditation Update  
President Fernandez will be providing the board with a copy of her report later in the meeting.
E. CFAO Financial Report (President Fernandez) -

In a handout provided to Board members, CFAO Roger Madriaga outlined the College’s current financial position as of June 19, 2009. His report included the following highlights:

1. Appropriation under P.L. 16-32: $545,000 projected surplus
2. Vocational Education: $51,239 projected surplus
3. Operations Budget: $3.1 million for FY2009
   • $1.8 million spent
   • $1.2 million balance as of July 02, 2009
5. Projected deficit or shortfall in utility payments: $358,993.
6. Compact Impact funds shortfall: $330,000

President Fernandez added to the CFAO report that she had written to the Governor requesting to reprogram $358,000. In addition, on two occasions, the Lt. Governor had committed the approval for the reprogramming so that the College will be able to pay for utilities and cover the retirement outlays from the operational fund. She also added the following highlights:

1. Projected Payroll: $328,000 estimated amount for NMC retirees (the appropriation would cover the 37% that the college needs in order for its retirees to collect retirement)
2. $500,000 projected surplus at the end of the FY2009
3. $160,000 projected reimbursements from the ARRA stabilization fund
4. $200,000 from additional grants for indirect costs
5. $31,000 collected ETC donations
6. Other projected revenue sources are anticipated to come from the Community Development Institute (CDI).

F. BOR Standing Committee

1. Fiscal Committee
   a. ARRA Stabilization funds – In a handout provided, President Fernandez outlined the ARRA Stabilization fund report. The College is anticipated to receive $3.98 million in ARRA stabilization funds.

2. Personnel Committee
   a. Statement of Evaluation of the President – Regent Orilla, BOR Personnel Committee Chair, informed the Board that after a series of meetings (June 4 and June 22) after the Board evaluated the NMC President, the committee is ready to present to the other Board members a handout containing the Statement of Evaluation of the President for 2008 and 2009. She also thanked Frankie Eliptico for his contribution and hard work in assisting the committee with the development of the Statement of Evaluation. The statement covers the evaluation and responses from the four constituent groups.

   Motion: Regent Orilla motioned to adopt the Statement of Evaluation.
   Second: Regent Demapan seconded the motion.
   Vote: The motion passed unanimously.
b. **President’s Goals & Objectives** – Regent Orilla, Personnel Committee Chair, informed the Board that the members have compiled the goals and objectives submitted from the four constituent groups for the President’s Goals and Objectives for 2009 and 2010. A handout provided to Board members will be used as a working document during the Board’s retreat on Rota.

3. Program Committee
   a. **BOR Scholarship Criteria**
      Regent Demapan, Program Committee Chair, informed the Board that the committee met to discuss the criteria for the proposed BOR Scholarship and members are ready to submit to the other board members the BOR Scholarship criteria.  
**Motion:** Regent Demapan motioned to adopt the BOR Scholarship criteria.  
**Second:** Regent Orilla seconded the motion.  
**Discussion:** Regent Dr. Inos mentioned that when she was reviewing the proposed BOR scholarship, she was reminded of the process for the Robert C. Byrd scholarship. She was concerned that if the student is meritorious in receiving the scholarship, they should maintain the award upon their maintenance of their GPA instead of having to repeat the whole process again.  
**Vote:** The motion passed unanimously.

IV. **OLD BUSINESS**

   a. **WASC Accreditation Update**
      President Fernandez discussed her presentation to the ACCJC at its meeting held on June 9. She also indicated that the Commission appeared impressed with her presentation. Chairperson Cepeda was also in attendance. The result of the Commission’s decision should be coming very soon.

V. **NEW BUSINESS**

   a. **Board Honorarium**
      **Motion:** Regent Orilla motioned to reinstate the board honorarium.  
      **Second:** Regent Peter seconded the motion.  
      **Vote:** The motion passed with a majority voice vote of four members with one (1) abstaining.

   b. **Board Meeting Schedule**
      **Motion:** Regent Peter motioned to reinstate the board meetings schedule to a quarterly basis and to hold special meetings when necessary.  
      **Second:** Regent Orilla seconded the motion.  
      **Vote:** The motion passed unanimously.

   c. **Election of Officers**
      
1. **Vice-Chairperson**
      **Motion:** Regent Orilla nominated Regent Maria (Malua) Peter to continue serving as BOR Vice-Chairperson.  
      **Second:** The motion was seconded by Regent Demapan.  
      **Vote:** The motion passed unanimously.

2. **Treasurer**
      **Motion:** Regent Orilla nominated Regent Dr. Rita Hocog Inos to serve as BOR Treasurer.  
      **Second:** The nomination was seconded by Regent Peter.
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Recess called at 5:23pm on Thursday, July 2, 2009, for Wednesday, July 15, 2009, at 3:30pm.

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Attendance:

Board of Regents: Chairperson Charles Cepeda, Regent Elaine Hocog Orilla, Vice-Chairperson Maria (Malua) T. Peter, Regent Dr. Rita Hocog Inos (via VTC in Rota), Regent Janet Han King, Honorary Faculty Regent Larry Lee, Honorary Student Regent Miles Rodriguez, and Honorary Staff Regent Joyce Taro.

Excused/Absent: Regent Juan S. Demapan.

College Staff and Faculty: Dr. Carmen Fernandez, NMC President; Frankie Eliptico, OIA Director; Pasquana H. Calvo, Acting Dean of Academic Programs and Services; Roger Madriaga, CFAO; Janice Tenorio, Dean of Student Services; and Helen Camacho, Office of Institutional Advancement (Recorder).

Others: Jesse Borja, NMC Legal Counsel.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Regents was called to order on Wednesday, July 15, 2009, at 3:30p.m. in the BOR Conference room, Northern Marianas College Saipan campus.

A. Roll Call

Chairperson Cepeda called roll call. Five members of the Board of Regents were present.

II. BOR Standing Committees

1. Personnel Committee
   a. President’s Goals and Objectives 2009 – 2010: As a result of the BOR Retreat held on July 5, 2009, on Rota, Regent Orilla, BOR Personnel Committee Chair, informed the Board that the committee is ready to present the President’s Goals and Objectives for 2009 & 2010.
   Motion: Regent Peter motioned to adopt the President’s Goals and Objectives for FY2009 & 2010.
   Second: Regent King seconded the motion.
   Vote: The motion passed unanimously.
III. Old Business

a. WASC Accreditation Update
Chairman Cepeda congratulated the NMC community for achieving reaffirmation. President Fernandez reiterated the same sentiments and mentioned that she looks forward to working even harder to make the Northern Marianas College the premier post-secondary institution in the Western Pacific region. She also thanked the Accreditation Commission, the CNMI community, NMC students, staff, faculty, CNMI legislators, regional partners (PPEC, Guam Community College, Hawaii Community College, and College of the Marshall Islands President Dr. Wilson Hess), and consultants that contributed to turning the sanctions around in two years. President Fernandez stated that the College will continue to move forward and will not relent in striving for student excellence.

Motion: BOR Chairman Cepeda motioned for the President to request $1,000 from the NMC Foundation to help fund a reaffirmation celebration event for students, staff, and faculty.
Second: The motion was seconded by Regent Peter.
Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:10p.m. on Wednesday, July 15, 2009.