



CMI

BOARD OF REGENTS

College of the Marshall Islands

Accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC)

P.O. Box 1258

Uliga Campus

Tel: (692) 625-3394/3291/4931

Fax: (692) 625-7203

Email: bor.regents@cmi.edu

Special Board of Regents Minutes - Approved December 27, 2024

Members Present

Chairperson Kathryn Relang
Regent Salome Andrike
Regent Kino Kabua

Vice Chair Julius Lucky
Regent Joe Lomae
Regent Benjamin Wakefield

Regent Jelton Anjain
Student Regent Wilmer Joel
Regent Marie Maddison

Member Absent/Excused

Regent Melet Jatios

Regent Nimata Nakamura

CMI employees in attendance:

Dr. Elizabeth Switaj, Acting President & Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

Dr. Adedayo Ogunmokun, Vice President for Land Grant

Kelly Sebastian, Executive Officer/Executive Secretary for the CMI Board of Regents (ESBOR)

The meeting was called to order @ 9:17 AM

Agenda Items

1. Opening prayer & Roll call and call to order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Report and Recommendations/Approvals/Action
 - 3.1. CMI Act Amendments
4. Matters for information
5. BOR request for future items and information
6. Executive Session

Minutes

1. OPENING PRAYER, ROLL CALL, AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair Relang commenced the BOR meeting and asked VPLG Ogunmokun to open the meeting with a prayer. Chair Relang officially called the meeting to order at 9:17 AM.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Regent Maddison moved to adopt the Board's Agenda. Regent Lomae and Regent Lucky seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS/APPROVALS



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3.1. CMI Act Amendments

- 3.1.1. Chair Relang reported that the EC Minutes indicated that the college team did not propose any specific amendments but only agreed to the language proposed by the committee.
- 3.1.2. Regent Lomae reported that the CMI Act amendments aim to clarify the college's purpose, refine roles, align objectives, and address ambiguities for improved implementation. Legal counsel and the Attorney General proposed changes, including repealing non-resident worker exemptions for policy consistency. The Act was last revised in 2006.

Regent Lomae, chair of the Standing Committee for the Review of the CMI Act, presented proposed amendments. After a thorough discussion, the Board incorporated changes and unanimously approved them. Explanations will be included in the Cabinet Paper (CP).

3.1.3. Section 206 – Purposes

- 3.1.3.1. Clarifies and expands the purposes of the College, including the maintenance of accreditation by the Association of Community Colleges and Junior Colleges or other appropriate accreditation institutions.
- 3.1.3.2. Includes a new provision: “coordinate with other educational institutions in the Micronesian region and other locations, for such matters as, but not limited to, the transfers, research and educational programs; reciprocal treatment of students for immigration, work-study, and other purposes; coordination of exchange programs; joint and cooperative research or education programs, and such other matters regarding the cooperative interaction between the College and other educational institutions; and.”

3.1.4. Section 208 – Board of Regents: Membership

- 3.1.4.1. Amended the "CMI Student Government Association President" with "one (1) student representative appointed at the discretion of the Board."
 - By default, it is the SGA President, but if the SGA President declines the appointment, this allows for any student to be selected.
 - The President and Administration can consult with the students to make the selection if it is not the SGA President.
 - Chair Relang recommended that the SGA should have some role in supporting the Student Regent.
- 3.1.4.2. Regent Kabua recommended deleting the clause "commissioners of the public school system are not eligible for appointment to the Board" and limiting it to "members of the Nitijela are not eligible for appointment to the Board," with the idea that the Cabinet will appoint a PSS Board representative.



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- 3.1.4.3. Chair Relang suggested that a representative from the PSS Board can sit on this board.
- 3.1.5. Section 209 – Terms of Office
 - 3.1.5.1. Chair Relang reported that under section 208 governing board letter (b), the suggestion is to create a separate section specifically for the terms and eliminate the word "initial."
 - 3.1.5.2. The discussion is now focused on revising the number of years and the staggered terms as follows:
 - (a) five (5) members shall serve for four (4) years; and
 - (b) five (5) members shall serve for six (6) years;
 - The term of the student representative shall be at the discretion of the Board.
 - The term(s) of the subsequent appointments shall be based on the remaining term(s) of the outgoing member to maintain a staggering membership.
- 3.1.6. Section 210 – Board of Regents; Officers.
 - 3.1.6.1. Regent Lomae reported minor tweaks to the language, incorporating the chairperson, vice chairperson, and secretary/treasurer roles.
 - 3.1.6.2. Chair Relang reported that the board agreed to remove the secretary/treasurer officer, with amendments as follows:
 - The Board shall appoint a Chairperson and a Vice Chairperson from within the membership of the Board.
 - In the event the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson positions are vacant, the Board shall fill the positions for the unexpired term.
- 3.1.7. Section 211. Board of Regents; Quorum
 - 3.1.7.1. Regent Lomae reported that similar to the other provisions, a new section was created specifically for quorum, and the appropriate language was inserted.
- 3.1.8. Section 212. Board of Regents; Meetings
 - 3.1.8.1. Regent Lomae reported that all the language was rearranged and placed under the new Section 212 with the following amendments.
 - (1) The Board shall meet at least four times each fiscal year and at such other times as the Board shall decide.
 - (2) The Chairperson or a majority of the Board members may call a special meeting of the Board.
 - (3) Acts or other decisions of the Board must have the concurrence of majority of the Board at a duly called and noticed meeting.
 - 3.1.8.2. Regent Lomae agreed, suggesting a drafted amendment bylaw as supporting documentation.



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- 3.1.8.3. Chair Relang noted that a copy of the bylaws reflecting the current changes should be provided, with future amendments reviewed and updated following changes to the Act, and a copy sent to the Minister when changes are made.
- 3.1.8.4. Chair Relang reported that the bylaws contain more details on how the board operates.
- 3.1.8.5. Regent Maddison suggested submitting the bylaws and highlighting what's in the Act, as the Cabinet will decide whether to accept them.
 - She noted that the question of the secretary/treasurer position will likely arise, linking it to the audit, and emphasized that the justification is the existence of a Finance Standing Committee.
- 3.1.9. Chair Relang reported that the proposal is to remove Sections 211 (Quorum), 212 (Meetings), and 213 (Committees) from the Act, as they are reflected in the bylaws.
 - 3.1.9.1. When submitting the CP for these amendments, a copy of the bylaws will be attached.
- 3.1.10. Section 214. Board of Regents; Bylaws
 - 3.1.10.1. Amendment: The Board shall develop, review, amend, and repeal bylaws.
- 3.1.11. Sections 215–217 (Board of Regents; Removal of Members, Ethical Conduct, Responsibilities of the Board): Amendments were presented, and no objections were made.
- 3.1.12. Section 218. Chief Executive Officer of the College.
 - 3.1.12.1. Regent Lomae reported that some subsections were modified to include specific language, including:
 - (f) to keep the College advised of the requirements set forth by the Board;
 - (g) to perform such other additional duties as the Board may require.
- 3.1.13. Chair Relang mentioned that one option would be to leave everything in the legislation but include a statement that all of the details are reflected in the bylaws.
- 3.1.14. Section 225. Applicability of laws.
 - 3.1.14.1. Amendment: Except as noted in this Chapter, the laws and regulations of the Republic and its political subdivisions shall apply to the College.

Regent Maddison moved to approve all the proposed amendments. Regent Lucky seconded the motion. The motion was approved.



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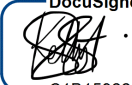
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4. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

5. BOR REQUESTS FOR FUTURE ITEMS AND INFORMATION

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Meeting adjourned @ 12:28 PM

DocuSigned by:

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Scribe

Kelly Luce Sebastian,
Recording Secretary

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Reviewed & Approved by

Kathryn Relang
Chair, Board of Regents

March 3, 2025

Date Approved