

**NMC FOUNDATION**  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
BOR Conference Room – NMC Campus, Saipan  
Wednesday, August 27, 2008  
4:00p.m.

**PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

Attendance:

**Directors:** President Ben Babauta, Ivan Quichocho, Joanna Pai, Alumni President Jesse Torres, Jerry Tan

**Excused/Absent:** George Fleming, David Burger, Felicidad Ogumoro, Yoichi Matsumura, BOR Chair Charles Cepeda, BOR Janet Han King are all excused absent.

**College Staff and Faculty:** NMC President Dr. Carmen Fernandez, Office of Institutional Advancement Director Mark Mendiola and Helen Camacho (Recorder).

**Others:** None.

**I. OPENING PROCEDURES**

- A. Welcoming Remarks by President Babauta.
- B. Roll Call: President Fernandez called roll call. Five members of the Foundation Board were present; a quorum was established.
- C. George Fleming, David Burger, Felicidad Ogumoro, Yoichi Matsumura, BOR Chair Charles Cepeda and BOR Janet Han King are all excused absent.
- D. Review and Adoption of Agenda  
**Motion:** Director Pai moved to adopt the agenda.  
**Second:** Director Quichocho seconded the motion.  
**Vote:** Unanimous.
- E. Review and Adoption of Minutes – August 07, 2008  
**Motion:** Director Quichocho moved to adopt the August 07, 2008 minutes.  
**Second:** Director Pai seconded the motion.  
**Vote:** Unanimous.

**II. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Scholarship Committee –**

President Babauta briefly discussed the recent resignation of Scholarship Committee Chair Jay Jones. At the previous meeting, the members voted to have Director Felicidad Ogumoro as the new Chairperson for the Scholarship Committee. OIA Director Mark Mendiola has been trying to communicate with Director Ogumoro to get her acceptance but hasn't had any luck.

President Babauta recommended sending a “We Miss You” letter to all of the Foundation members.

**B. Investment Committee –**

President Babauta informed the Board that he met with Junior Vice-President Jason Miyashita on Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> after the mini investment conference held on Saipan and mentioned that the meeting was very good. President Babauta said that the fund is up to \$883,000 since its inception. From the beginning of the value market, the fund is at \$5 million. Jason’s recommendation to the Board is simply to not make any withdrawals given the current situation with the market.

President Babauta also mentioned that Dave Burger has agreed to serve as one of the signatories to the Foundation Smith Barney account.

President Babauta requested to attend the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Pacific Region Investment Conference will be held on October 09-10, 2008 in Manila, Philippines.

**Motion:** Director Quichocho moved to approve President Babauta’s trip to attend the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Pacific Region Investment to include airline ticket, per diem and conference fees.

**Second:** Director Pai seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Unanimous.

**C. Special Events Committee –**

Director Quichocho Special Events Committee Chair informed the Board that his committee has come up with a golf carnival event sometime in October. However, due to other events for the month, the committee will be looking at setting it for another date. Director Quichocho outlined the details of the proposed Golf Carnival event. He also mentioned that proceeds generated from the carnival will be given to the Alumni Association and the other half can be decided by the committee. Recommendations are welcome in this regard.

President Babauta recommended that they set a new date and start creating a marketing schedule. He said that it’s a new event for the Foundation and he’s looking forward to it.

**Golf Carnival Event**

New Date: Saturday, October 04, 2008

Venue: Saipan LaoLao Resort

President Babauta briefly talked about the plans to bring back Augie Tulba for another comedy concert. OIA Director Mark Mendiola is currently in direct communication with Augie T. and will try to get a more concrete response.

President Fernandez recommended bringing “Sherese”, a young and upcoming Filipino talented singer from the Philippines who was recently featured on the television talk show Oprah.

President Ferandnez also suggested hosting an all expense paid appreciation dinner for all of the ETC donors.

President Babauta recommended that they find other ways of bringing in new talent. He mentioned the recent performance by a dance group called Jabbawockeez that was on Guam.

### **III. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **A. Accreditation Update**

President Fernandez informed the Board that the college administration is looking forward to presenting the revised strategic plan and hopefully getting the Board’s approval at the upcoming Board meeting. She also mentioned that the College will be going through the process of linking the results from the program review and strategic planning to the operations budget.

President Fernandez informed the Foundation Board that she is going to recommend to the NMC Board of Regents, to assign the KRNM Radio Station license because it has nothing directly to do with the academics of the College. She felt that it was irresponsible for the College to continue to carry this debt burden because it has been a cost center for the institution for the last ten years. This matter has gone through NMC’s shared governance process. President Fernandez explained that both sides would benefit from this because the College would be free of the cost burden and the listeners will continue to enjoy public radio.

President Fernandez informed the Board that to date the enrollment total is almost at 800. The goal is 943. Recruitment was very aggressive all around the island but many people left the island and most of them were NMC students. President Fernandez is hopeful that they are going to reach this goal.

OIA Director Mark Mendiola explained that the first day of registration was phenomenal. There were about 500 students who registered on the first day. The success of this outcome can be attributed to the various marketing strategies to include Information Sessions, presentations at various government agencies and the radio commercial called “Start Smart” campaign geared towards encouraging students to consider Northern Marianas College as their first option before deciding to other schools. In addition, the NMC webpage has been revamped so that the general public can view the accomplishments and work that has been going towards accreditation.

President Babauta inquired about the new school called Northern Marianas Trades School and whether or not this has caused any affect on enrollment. President Fernandez explained there is no adverse effect on NMC’s enrollment. The school is

modeled after the Guam Contractors Association Technical School. She mentioned that NMC is ready to implement a U.S. Apprenticeship Program but the funding never came through. In order to jump start this program, a minimum of \$1.5 million dollars is needed. However, under the Federalization law, there are funds earmarked to educational institutions for these types of programs.

#### **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **A. By-laws**

President Babauta stated that currently the Foundation Board has fifteen members with the exception of three (3) resignations and some that are inactive.

President Babauta recommended changing the number of members on the Foundation Board because there have been difficulties with establishing quorum to hold a meeting.

OIA Director Mark Mendiola said that after visiting with the Registrar's Office, he discovered the following information:

1. In 2001, the Board approved to increase the number of members but it was never forwarded to the Registrar's Office to record the amendment made to the by-laws.
2. The Foundation Board at the time wanted to increase the number of members because the original By-laws allowed for three (3) members.
3. In 2001, the Foundation Board at the time tried to amend the By-laws. Minutes are available to support the adoption of the By-laws, however, it was never filed with the CNMI Registrar of Corporations Office.
4. OIA Director Mark Mendiola informed the Board that after much research and interviews from previous Foundation members it was concluded that the 2001 amendment of by-laws were never properly filed.
5. President Babauta believes that in light of the recent resignations it is an opportune time to transition and amend the By-laws correctly. Furthermore, the Board should consider reducing the number of foundation members to nine (9).
6. Officially, the Foundation Board is following the 1997 By-laws that requires a five member Board.

After much discussion, President Babauta recommended on finalizing the By-law document for the next meeting.

#### **V. MISCELLANEOUS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. NMC Alumni meeting will be held at the Hard Rock Café at 6:00p.m.
2. Next Foundation meeting will be held on November 19, 2008 at 4:00p.m.
3. The Educational Tax Credit (ETC) has raised a total of \$378,000 in the last 4 years.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting ended at 5:35p.m.