BOARD OF REGENTS
BRIEFING PAPER

1. AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Handbook Revision, Course Numbering for Professional Schools

   MEETING DATE: December 1, 2016 (ARSA)

2. BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

Under Title 4, Chapter 14, Section 16, existing Board policy sets forth the following system-wide course numbering rubric so that all baccalaureate transfer courses are clearly identified for students:

a.	Remedial/developmental courses	001-099
b.	Lower-division courses	100-299
c.	Upper-division courses	300-499
d.	State College graduate courses	500-699
e.	University graduate courses	500-799

Numbering for courses within the NSHE professional schools is not specifically distinguished within this policy. These schools often have courses that may look like other undergraduate or graduate courses (such as "biology"), but are unique and only offered through the professional school.

Responding to a question/request from UNLV regarding the development of courses for the UNLV School of Medicine, System staff recommends revising existing policy to provide the option of using a distinct course numbering system for NSHE professional schools.

3. SPECIFIC ACTIONS BEING RECOMMENDED OR REQUESTED:

Amend Title 4, Chapter 14, Section 16 to specifically allow professional schools to establish their own distinct course numbering rubric that extends beyond the numbering rubric set forth under the policy for undergraduate and graduate courses (001-799).

4. IMPETUS (WHY NOW?):

This policy revision is recommended by System staff with the support of the Academic Affairs Council to facilitate of the development of courses for the UNLV School of Medicine

5. BULLET POINTS TO SUPPORT REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

x Professional schools may need the flexibility to distinguish their courses from other similar courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels so there is no confusion for students and other stakeholders involved in reviewing course offerings at the professional schools or the institutions generally.

6. POTENTIAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION:

None have been raised.

7. ALTERNATIVE(S) TO WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED/RECOMMENDED:

None.

8. COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:

‰ Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title #____ Chapter #_____   Section #_____
X   Amends Current Board Policy: Title 4, Chapter 14, Section 16
‰ Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter #_____ Section #_____
‰ Other:_____
‰ Fiscal Impact   Yes_____   No X____
   Explain:_____

POLICY PROPOSAL
TITLE 4, CHAPTER 14, SECTION 16
Course Numbering Professional Schools

Additions appear in *boldface italics*; deletions are [