

**Minutes**  
**Board Meeting**  
**The Ohio State University at Newark**

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September 21, 2017; 8:30 – 9:40 a.m.

The John Gilbert Reese Center, Executive Conference Room (Room 255)

**1. Call to Order**

Board Chair, Dr. Sharad Thakkar, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. in the Executive Conference Room of The John Gilbert Reese Center.

**2. Welcome and Introduction of New Board Members and New Chair of Faculty Assembly**

Board Chair, Dr. Sharad Thakkar, welcomed and introduced new board members, Talya Greathouse and Matt Miller (not present). Dean Bill MacDonald introduced the new Student Representative to the Board, Josh Flickinger. Dean MacDonald also introduced the new chair of the Faculty Assembly, Asuman Turkmen.

**3. Welcome of Special Guest**

Dean MacDonald welcomed special guest Dr. Ryan Schmiesing, Vice Provost, Strategic Planning & Implementation, Office of Academic Affairs.

**4. Approval of Minutes of June 15, 2017, Board Meeting**

The minutes of the June 15, 2017, Board meeting were approved as distributed

**5. Approval of the Agenda**

The meeting agenda was approved as distributed.

**6. Public Comments**

Dr. Sharad Thakkar, Board Chair, invited public comments. No public comments were presented. Dr. Thakkar stated he is looking forward to his official capacity as Chair and appreciates the support of the faculty, staff and members of the board.

**7. Presentation of Gavel in Recognition of Marcia Downes, Past Chair of the Board**

Dean MacDonald thanked Marcia Downes for her service over the past year and presented her with the ceremonial gavel.

**8. Central Ohio Technical College (COTC) Board Report**

John Hinderer, Chair of the COTC Board, reported that the Board met Tuesday, September 19, 2017. He stated that every year COTC presents the Legends of Loyalty Award to recognize dedicated, committed citizens to the college who have made a significant impact to its history. Dr. Coe presented awards to five recipients: 1) Louella Reese, College Benefactor; 2) Ken Ollish, Associate Professor; 3) Sandy Siegrist, Professor; 4) Lisa Smith, Staff member in Financial Aid; and 5) Whit Tussing, Professor.

Mr. Hinderer reported that COTC completed the Italian Immersion Program, hosting 15 students and 3 chaperones from Italy for two weeks this summer. He thanked the Reese family for funding the project and Holly Mason from Student Life for organizing and planning the event. It was very well received.

He also stated that Sara Wallace's term on the COTC Board will end October 1<sup>st</sup>. The Board was privileged to award her Emeritus status at the board meeting, which was 31 years almost to the day after her father received the same status. Emeritus status will enable Sara to remain engaged.

## 9. Faculty Assembly Report

Asuman Turkmen, Chair of the Faculty Assembly, reported that there was a Faculty Forum held in April and the topic was diversity and inclusion, specifically, creating and adopting inclusive teaching methods. An ad hoc committee was formed to work on an action plan for building a stronger and more inclusive community at Newark. Dr. Turkmen requested discussion topics for the next Faculty Forum in April 2018. The Faculty Assembly is also in the process of updating standing committee memberships and getting ready for elections in December.

## 10. Board Committee Reports

- ***Academic Affairs and Student Life Committee.*** Holly Mason, Director of Student Life, reported that there is much more student visibility on campus with the 130 additional residents in McConnell Hall. This has required rethinking the use of space on campus. There has also been an increase in student counseling, and the trend is that there are students coming to campus with higher needs.

Homecoming will start with voting next week. Student Life used the "Block O" fire pit outside McConnell Hall for a meet-the-candidates event. The outdoor volleyball court is being used regularly. The event space in McConnell Hall has been used for five events so far with excellent attendance. Student Life is currently registering student organizations and there has been an increase in intramurals. The gym is now open seven days a week with an average of 300 visits per day. She also reported that Student Life will be taking student volunteers to the Food Pantry Network in town once the student organizations are established.

- ***Enrollment Committee Report.*** Diane Kanney, Director of Admissions, reported that preliminary data taken from the 15-day official report indicate enrollment this autumn semester is up 3.4% and FTE is up 2.78%. There will be a full report at next month's board meeting. The first Buckeye Visit Day of the year will be October 6<sup>th</sup>, and 140 students are already registered, surpassing the goal of 100. The Enrollment Committee is increasing its outreach with juniors and will start talking to sophomores in the spring.
- ***Finance Committee Report – Budget Update.*** Mike Cantlin reported that he reviewed the budget for the 2017-2018 academic year with Dean MacDonald and David Brillhart. He thanked Diane Kanney for her hard work and stated that the headcount performance has been instrumental to moving OSU Newark forward. The Budget Book was distributed to all board members prior to the meeting, and Mr. Cantlin gave an overview. He noted that last year's academic year finished with a

surplus and the current fiscal year is continuing to be strong. Mr. Cantlin stated that the formulas are working with the state subsidy. He asked David Brillhart to give some highlights. Mr. Brillhart stated that the timeline for the budget review is later this year due to the state's budget backing up to the end of June. He complimented Diane Kanney and her team for exceeding the projected enrollment, as this is the key metric to the budget. Projected to be 2,469, actual autumn enrollment is over 2,600. David stated that another important number affecting revenue is FTE. This was projected to be 2,284 and the actual number is over 2,300, which represents a 2% increase, (see 2017-2018 Budget Book, Page 10) which will increase tuition numbers.

Regarding tuition, David stated that there is an important change this year (See Budget Book, Page 12). The university implemented a new tuition structure where first time freshmen will have a tuition freeze for the duration of their program. For these incoming freshmen, their tuition is established at a 5.7% higher rate and will be locked in for their undergraduate degree. The response to this program has been very positive. Going forward, legislation allows the established rate to increase by only 2% or the cost of inflation, whichever is lower. David noted other key highlights in the Budget Book including a budget-to-budget comparison for FY17-18 versus FY 16-17. (See Page 4). There has been a 5.4% increase in revenues. The state subsidy also increased by 12% due to associate degree completions that factor back into the formula.

David further reported that expenditures, including salary increases and increases in operations and in the fitness center, as well as operating reductions and savings, are all detailed in the budget. An important note is the jump in general overhead. This is due to Dean MacDonald's decision not to spend the increased revenue from SSI, but to put it away for debt service in the future, specifically targeted for the Science & Technology Building. That line item will have \$600,000 designated for debt service, bringing the total funding to \$7.3 million. The Annual Capital Plan for Newark Campus is located on pages 36-37, which details funding for facilities and IT upkeep. The Appendix in the Budget Book includes the cost share agreement, which OSU and COTC present to both boards to maintain transparency on how the organizations split costs. This year \$11.9 million in costs are split between OSU Newark and COTC. It shifted this year due to enrollment, with OSU taking a larger share of these costs.

## **11. Dean's/Director's Report**

- ***Report on Fall Convocation held on August 21, 2017.*** Dean Bill MacDonald provided a report on the Fall Convocation that was held on August 21, 2017. Convocation came back to campus this year with very positive results. Student participation was excellent. A few things can be done differently next year to make it even better, but all went well. It was the same day as the solar eclipse, which added to the activity and excitement on campus.

- ***Report on Dedication and Ribbon Cutting of McConnell Residence Hall.*** Dean MacDonald provided a report on the dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new residence hall which took place on August 25<sup>th</sup>. Several board members were present for building tours and a special VIP luncheon. Bill McConnell and members of his family also attended. By the request of Bill McConnell's son, the event took place on the date of Bill and Jane McConnell's wedding anniversary. The students love living in McConnell Hall and appreciate the study lounges and the view. Marcia Downes said that it was great that students were able to show their rooms during the tours and to attend the luncheon. The OSU Board of Trustees met on the Newark campus that same day and also participated in the luncheon.
- ***Report on Ohio State Board of Trustees' Meeting at Ohio State Newark on August 25, 2017.*** Dean MacDonald reported that The Ohio State University Board of Trustees held their meeting concurrent with the ribbon cutting and tours. Following their meeting, Trustees were able to tour McConnell Hall, speak with students and join for lunch. All of the feedback coming from the Board of Trustees has been very positive. Dean MacDonald thanked everyone for a successful day of events.
- ***Update on Board Appreciation Dinner.*** Dean MacDonald reported that the annual dinner takes place each year to show appreciation to board members for serving on the OSU Newark Advisory Board. Each year a faculty member is asked to deliver a presentation showcasing exciting developments in their teaching or research. Dean MacDonald asked board members for their suggestions on which faculty member they would like to invite.
- ***Other:*** Dean MacDonald referenced a public health statement he had sent out to board members prior to the meeting. He had received notification earlier in the week that there was a staff member at the Newark campus who was diagnosed with legionella. A notice went out the next day and the *Columbus Dispatch* picked up the story. There had also been a student diagnosed with the disease on Columbus campus. Dean MacDonald stated that the water at OSU Newark campus is being tested as a precaution, but it is highly unlikely that drinking water is the source. Water is routinely tested twice each year in the cooling towers, and various other methods of water testing are scheduled each month. Our facilities personnel will follow the recommendations of the company conducting the tests and of Columbus Public Health.

Dean MacDonald invited special guest Dr. Ryan Schmiesing to say a few words and answer any questions. Dr. Schmiesing opened by stating that having the dedication of the new residence hall on the same day as the Board of Trustees visit could have been complicated, but instead it worked out very well and the board was pleased with the tour and the welcome. There were many compliments directed to all who participated in the planning and hosting of the successful day of events. He also stated that the goal of leadership is to visit each of the regional campuses with the Board of Trustees at least once each year.

Dr. Schmiesing stated that the conversation regarding student housing is regenerated on the regional campuses. Student housing is a critical component to the regional campus experience, and OSU Newark is a great model to replicate in other places.

Dr. Schmiesing stated that the university has finished its strategic plan with broad goals and aspirations. Emphasis will continue to be placed on financial support for students, not just in Columbus but all across the state. There has been an increase in Presidential Scholarships including awards on regional campuses.

Kathy Lloyd stated that it would be beneficial for the University Board of Trustees to get more information on the basics of how the regional campuses work. For example, Kathy spoke with a newer board member who was surprised that regional campuses have 4-year degree programs. It would heighten the regional campus profile to have an educational session for the Board of Trustees explaining how the regional campuses interact and the role they play in the overall system. Dr. Schmiesing agreed that increasing awareness internally is our greatest challenge. Ms. Lloyd proposed a 10-15 minute tutorial to the Board of Trustees about the structure and mission at the regional campuses.

Chris Meyer asked about future student housing and the different models for funding. Dr. Schmiesing stated that university-owned housing on university property is ideal. Other models involving public/private partnerships are good for some campuses, but the other services have to be available first. The conversations should start with providing dining services, student support and counseling, and all of the things that come with having students on campus full time. Dean MacDonald stated that OSU Newark prepared the infrastructure, including dining and recreational facilities, in preparation for the increased number of students living on campus in McConnell Hall. The business office recently reviewed a draft MOU for the next phase of McConnell Hall or for an additional building. It is financially feasible, but classes, staffing, public safety, mental health, student life, and the STEM building to house classes must first be in place. Dr. Schmiesing added that OSU has a regional campus enterprise, but each campus is different. A single model cannot be applied across all campuses. Newark could be ready for the next phase or residential building before another campus is ready for its first one. He said that what we can apply is the expectation for a high quality student experience on every campus, and this is where the campuses are similar.

Michael Cantlin asked about Dr. Schmiesing's role as Vice Provost for Strategic Planning and Implementation. Specifically, when OSU Newark proposes a master plan, Mr. Cantlin asked if Dr. Schmiesing would be the ally to make sure the plan gets completed. Dr. Schmiesing affirmed that if a regional campus proposes a master plan, it is his job to be an advocate internally to help realize that plan. University leadership will support these efforts if there is a plan and due diligence about how that plan was developed.

Marcia Downes asked that the next meeting include an agenda item for Jackie Parrill and David Brillhart to present projections for the STEM building and to discuss the next step. Dean MacDonald stated that the Strategic Planning Committee has been working from a five-year strategic plan that was completed prior to the release of the university plan. Both the STEM building and the next residence hall or addition to McConnell Hall are included in the OSU Newark five-year plan, so Dean MacDonald is confident that this topic can be covered in the next meeting.

## **12. Next Board Meeting – November 16, 2017 – 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. in the Reese Board Room**

- *Upcoming Board Meeting Dates for 2017-2018 at 8:30 a.m.*
  - November 16, 2017
  - January 18, 2018
  - March 15, 2018
  - May 17, 2018
  - June 21, 2018

## **13. Other Business**

Dean MacDonald distributed a flier promoting the James W. Pyle Community Education Program: A Conversation About Alzheimer's Disease on October 2, 2017 at 5pm in the John Gilbert Reese Center. Matt Kelly stated that the speaker, Douglas Scharre, MD, is a world renowned expert in Neurobehavior and Memory Disorders. Participants will have the opportunity to take a memory test. It is open to the public and anyone can RSVP to the address on the flier.

## **14. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted by*

*Nichole Lenglé  
Executive Assistant to the Dean and Director  
The Ohio State University at Newark*